

Justices take up high-profile case over young immigrants

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is taking up the Trump administration's plan to end legal protections that shield 660,000 immigrants from deportation, a case with strong political overtones amid the 2020 presidential election campaign.

All eyes will be on Chief Justice John Roberts when the court hears arguments

Tuesday. Roberts is the conservative justice closest to the court's center who also is keenly aware of public perceptions of an ideologically divided court. It's the third time in three years that the administration is asking the justices to rescue a controversial policy that has been blocked by several lower courts.

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People protest outside the Supreme Court in Washington, Friday, Nov. 8, 2019.

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Michelle Lainez, 17, originally from El Salvador but now living in Gaithersburg, Md., speaks during a rally outside the Supreme Court in Washington, Friday, Nov. 8, 2019.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

The court sided with President Donald Trump in allowing him to enforce the travel ban on visitors from some majority Muslim countries, but it blocked the administration from adding a citizenship question to the 2020 census.

Roberts was the only member of the court in the majority both times, siding with four conservatives on the travel ban and four liberals in the census case. His vote could be decisive a third time, as well.

The program before the court is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, an Obama-era program that aimed to bring out of the shadows people who have been in the United States since they were children and are in the country illegally. In some cases, they have no memory of any home other than the U.S. With Congress at an impasse over a comprehensive immigration bill, President Barack Obama decided to formally protect people from deportation while also allowing them to work legally in the U.S.

But Trump made tough talk on immigration a central

part of his campaign and less than eight months after taking office, he announced in September 2017 that he would end DACA.

Immigrants, civil rights groups, universities and Democratic-led states quickly sued, and courts put the administration's plan on hold.

There are two questions before the Supreme Court: whether federal judges can even review the decision to end the program and, if they can, whether the way the administration has gone about winding down DACA is legal.

In that sense, the case resembles the dispute over the census citizenship question, which focused on the process the administration used in trying to add the question to the 2020 census. In the end, Roberts wrote that the reason the administration gave for wanting the question "seems to have been contrived."

There also are similarities to the travel ban case, in which the administration argued that courts had no role to play and that the executive branch has vast

discretion over immigration, certainly enough to justify Trump's ban. In the Supreme Court decision, Roberts wrote that immigration law gives the president "broad discretion to suspend the entry of aliens into the United States. The President lawfully exercised that discretion."

The Supreme Court fight over DACA has played out in a kind of legal slow motion. The administration first wanted the justices to hear and decide the case by June 2018. The justices said no. The justice Department returned to the court a year ago, but the justices did nothing for more than seven months before agreeing to hear arguments.

The delay has bought DACA recipients at least two extra years because a decision now isn't expected until June 2020, which also could thrust the issue into the presidential campaign.

In part the court's slow pace can be explained by a preference to have Congress legislate a lasting resolution of the issue. But Trump and Congress failed to strike a deal on DACA.

Janet Napolitano, the

University of California president who served as Obama's homeland security secretary when DACA was created, said the administration seems to recognize that ending DACA protections would be unpopular.

"And so perhaps they think it better that they be ordered by the court to do it as opposed to doing it correctly on their own," Napolitano said in an interview with The Associated Press. She is a named plaintiff in the litigation.

Solicitor General Noel Francisco, who is arguing the administration's case at the Supreme Court, pushed back against that criticism. "We think the way we did it is entirely appropriate and lawful. If we did it in a different way, it would be subject to challenge," Francisco said at a Smithsonian Institution event exploring the current Supreme Court term.

The Trump administration has said it moved to cut off the program under the threat of a lawsuit from Texas and other states, raising the prospect of a chaotic end.

Then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions determined DACA to be unlawful because Obama did not have the authority to adopt it in the first place. Sessions cited an expansion of the DACA program and a similar effort to protect undocumented immigrants who are parents of American children that were struck down by federal courts. A 4-4 Supreme

Court tie in 2016 affirmed the lower court rulings.

Texas and other Republican-led states eventually did sue and won a partial victory in a federal court in Texas.

The administration's best argument is a simple one, said Josh Blackman, a professor at South Texas College of Law in Houston: "The Supreme Court should allow the Trump Administration to wind down a policy it found to be unlawful, even if reasonable judges disagree about DACA's legality."

Trump has said he favors legislation on DACA, but that it will take a Supreme Court ruling for the administration to spur Congress to act.

On at least one point, Trump and his DACA critics agree.

"Only legislation can bring a permanent sense of stability for all of these people," said Microsoft president Brad Smith. Microsoft joined the challenge to the administration because, Smith said, 66 employees are protected by DACA.

The Department of Homeland Security is continuing to process two-year DACA renewals so that in June 2020, hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients will have protections stretching beyond the election and even into 2022.

If the high court rules for the administration, it is unclear how quickly the program would end or Congress might act. □

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Jamaican lottery scam victim hoping to get back her \$400K

HARVEY, N.D. (AP) — A 90-year-old North Dakota woman who was robbed of her life savings by a Jamaican lottery scam says she has been paid back only \$287 of the \$400,000 she's owed.

Edna Schmeets of Harvey, a small central North Dakota town about 77 miles (124 kilometers) northeast of Bismarck, was the victim whose case launched what became the first large-scale Jamaican lottery scam case prosecuted in the U.S. All 31 defendants have been prosecuted, including 14 Jamaican nationals who were extradited from that country. Authorities identified victims of the scam in 31 states, with more than 100 mostly elderly American bilked out of more than \$6 million.

"I'm so disappointed," Schmeets told the Bismarck Tribune of the small amount she's gotten back. She said she was told another check for \$138 is pending.

Federal prosecutors pledged to get at least some of the victims' money back. But offenders' inability to pay often limits the collection of restitution. According to the National Center for Victims of Crime, many victims wait years before receiving any money, and many never received the full amount they were owed.

Most restitution ordered in federal court cases is never collected, according to a federal government report last year. The U.S. Govern-

ment Accountability Office studied Justice Department data and found that at the end of fiscal 2016, \$110 billion in previously ordered restitution was outstanding, and federal prosecutors had identified \$100 billion of that — or 91% — as being uncollectable due to the offenders' inability to pay.

"Sadly, what you're seeing here (in the scam case) is all too typical, where victims are promised substantial restitution but the reality is much less," said Paul Cassell, a University of Utah law professor and special counsel with the National Crime Victim Law Institute. Drew Wrigley, the U.S. attorney for North Dakota, said he empathizes with Schmeets.

"If we could monetize our gratitude, she'd be paid back in full immediately," said Wrigley, whose office recently was awarded a U.S. Department of Justice award for cracking the case.

Scammers would call victims and tell them they had won money in a lottery but that they needed to pay advance fees to collect it. The scammers would then keep the victims' money without paying out anything. The case was prosecuted in North Dakota because that is where the investigation began into Schmeets being scammed. In 2011, shortly after her husband died, Schmeets began sending large checks, provided her credit card number, borrowed

money from her sister and cashed out life insurance policies after she was told by a scammer that she had won \$19 million in a lottery. "I think about it every day; I always keep beating myself up," said Schmeets, who said she has no savings left. "How could you be so dang stupid?"

With the help of a bank worker, Schmeets' children eventually learned what was happening and alerted authorities, who started



In this undated photo, Edna Schmeets, 90, poses for a picture with her children, from left, Lisa Appelt, and Ron, Tim and Jeff Schmeets, at her home in Harvey, N.D.

Associated Press

an investigation in 2012. Suspects were caught and prosecuted over the next seven years. Most of the defendants accepted plea deals. □



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Was Trump call with Ukraine 'perfect'? GOP has many answers

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent
WASHINGTON (AP) —

Republicans have no unified argument in the impeachment inquiry of Donald Trump, in large part because they can't agree on how best to defend the president — or for some, if they should.

That would require a level of consensus that Trump's call with the Ukraine president was "perfect," as he insists. Or it would take a measure of GOP independence from Trump to suggest there may be a need to investigate.

Instead, it's every Republican for himself or herself.

Utah Sen. Mitt Romney says the president's actions toward Ukraine are "troubling." Other Republicans say the behavior may raise concerns, but it's not impeachable.

South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham calls the whole impeachment inquiry "B.S."

The result is a mishmash of GOP commentary spilling from Capitol Hill that may shield lawmakers, for now, from risky political choices, but leaves them with a dis-



President Donald Trump waves to supporters after speaking at his Black Voices for Trump rally Friday, Nov. 8, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

jointed defense of Trump as impeachment hearings push into the public realm this coming week.

"It's not good," said veteran GOP strategist Alex Conant. "Normally you want to establish the facts, get them out on their own terms, and build a message around that strategy. They're not doing any of that."

He added: "It's hard to rally people to your side without a coherent and sustainable message."

Early on, as the White House ceded the PR strategy to the president, Republicans in the House and Senate parted ways as they confronted the political threat posed by the Democrats' impeachment investiga-

tion.

As far back as mid-October, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., gathered his GOP colleagues in private and offered them advice on impeachment.

McConnell told Republican senators their best bet was to calibrate their own message about the impeachment inquiry to fit their political situation, according to two people familiar with the private meeting who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the closed-door session.

With a Power Point presentation, McConnell outlined the process ahead if the investigation moves to a vote in the House and trial in the Senate. But when it came time to broach what Republicans should say about impeachment, McConnell showed a preference for saying as little about it as possible.

McConnell suggested a couple of options. Senators could say they disagreed with the House process, he said, or they could simply say that as potential jurors in an eventual impeachment trial they wouldn't discuss it, according to the people familiar with the meeting.

It was the kind of political advice one would expect from the risk-averse leader as he tries to insulate his 53-

seat GOP majority, including several senators up for reelection in 2020 in states such as Maine and Colorado where voters are split on Trump.

"That's what a good leader does — gives them the flexibility they need to respond. My problem is, given how egregious the president's conduct is, he's given them a pass," said Jim Manley, a veteran Democratic strategist.

"Most of these folks have got to know that what the president's doing is wrong, but they've made a cold-hearted, political decision right now it's best to stick with the president," he said.

At its core, the impeachment inquiry is based on what Democrats say is an improper quid pro quo — a "shakedown" — that Trump engaged in during his July 25 phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

According to a White House rough transcript of the call and testimony from several government officials, Trump was withholding needed military aid the East European ally as he wanted Zelenskyy to investigate Trump's potential 2020 rival, Joe Biden, as well 2016 U.S. election interference.

In the House, where congressional district boundary lines have been drawn in a way that leaves Republicans barely exposed to voters with centrist or left-leaning views, GOP leaders are mounting a more fulsome, if shifting, defense of Trump. GOP leader Kevin McCarthy of California says the president did nothing wrong on the call with Zelenskyy, and Trump's top allies in the House, including Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan, the top Republican on a committee conducting the impeachment inquiry, are leading the daily arguments against Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and the Democrats.

Jordan is seen as the "chief messenger" for Republicans, said one senior House GOP aide who was not authorized to publicly discuss the strategy and spoke on condition of anonymity. □

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Members of community attacked in Mexico doubt they'll return

By WALTER BERRY

The Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — A Utah man who helped get his mother and other family members safely out of northern Mexico after nine people were killed in an apparent ambush said Sunday that most fled to Arizona with whatever they could fit in their cars and trucks and they'll likely never return.

More than 100 people left their rural community in northern Mexico on Saturday in an 18-vehicle caravan after the attack Monday in which nine women and children were killed by what authorities say were hit men from drug cartels. "I went down there to get my mother and get my

family out, my brothers and sisters and lots of kids," Mike Hafen said Sunday in telephone interview from his sister's home in Phoenix.

"They've been down there for 47 years. They left with the bare minimum, whatever they could fit in the back of my pickup," Hafen added. "After 47 years of living, they almost had to walk away from everything."

Hafen said many of his family and friends think they'll never return to Mexico because of the drug cartels.

"It's getting worse. There's nothing but corruption. You don't know who you can trust," Hafen said. "Some of my family say they don't think they will ever be going back."

"It's pretty hard on everyone and it's sad. I grew up there. It was an awesome place to live. I love the place. Growing up there, I wouldn't trade it for anything," added Hafen, 54, who moved to Utah 15 years ago. "But what the cartels doing what they're doing, it's not safe. We have found that out."

Monday's deadly attack occurred as the women traveled with their children to visit relatives. Eight children, some mere infants, survived the ambush. The spread-out community traces its origins to the end of polygamy more than a century ago by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, forcing Mormon families in the U.S. with mul-



Cole Langford, left, and Hayden Spent, of the Mormon colony in La Mora, Mexico, hug during a rendezvous in a gas station in Douglas, Ariz., Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

tiple wives to establish offshoots elsewhere.

The families had lived in two hamlets in Mexico's Sonora state: La Mora and Colonia LeBaron. Other residents of the hamlets plan to depart in the coming days, leaving the community their

families have called home since the 1950s.

Hafen said his family members haven't decided whether to stay in Arizona or go elsewhere.

"They're still working on it, trying to figure it out," he said. □

Progressive lawyer Boudin wins San Francisco's DA race

By DAISY NGUYEN

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Chesa Boudin, the son of anti-war radicals sent to prison for murder when he was a baby, has won San Francisco's tightly contested race for district attorney after campaigning to reform the criminal justice system.

The former deputy public defender declared victory Saturday night after four days of ballot counting determined he was ahead of interim District Attorney Suzy Loftus. The latest results from the San Francisco Department of Elections gave Boudin a lead of 8,465 votes.

Loftus conceded and said she will work to ensure a smooth and immediate transition.

Boudin, 39, became the latest candidate across the nation to win district attorney elections by pushing for sweeping reform over incarceration. He said he wants to tackle racial bias in the criminal justice system, overhaul the bail system, protect immigrants from deportation and pursue accountability in police

misconduct cases.

"The people of San Francisco have sent a powerful and clear message: It's time for radical change to how we envision justice," Boudin said in a statement. "I'm humbled to be a part of this movement that is unwavering in its demand for transformation."

Boudin entered the race as an underdog and captured voters' attention with his extraordinary life story: He was 14 months old when his parents, who were members of the far-left Weather Underground, were imprisoned for their role in an armored car robbery in upstate New York that left two police officers and a security guard dead. His mother, Kathy Boudin, served 22 years and his father, David Gilbert, may spend the rest of his life in prison.

"Growing up, I had to go through a metal detector and steel gates just to give my parents a hug," Boudin said in his campaign video. He said that as one of the dozens of people whose lives were shattered by the deadly robbery in 1981, he experienced first-hand the

destructive effects of mass incarceration and it motivated him to reform the nation's broken criminal justice system.

He was raised in Chicago by Weather Underground leaders Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn before studying law at Yale University. He later won a Rhodes Scholarship and worked as a translator for Venezuela's late President Hugo Chavez before coming to San Francisco.

Loftus was appointed the interim district attorney by Mayor London Breed last month after George Gascon announced he was resigning and moving to Los Angeles to explore a run for DA there.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California accused Breed of undermining the democratic process.

Loftus was endorsed by the city's Democratic establishment, including Gov. Gavin Newsom and Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris. Boudin received high-profile support from Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and writer and civil rights activist Shaun King. □

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NRA turmoil creates rift among some big donors

By LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

Joe Olson was once such a passionate supporter of the National Rifle Association that he pledged to bequeath several million dollars from his estate to the gun organization upon his death.

But the steady drip of investigations and misspending allegations and a shakeup at the top ranks of the NRA compelled him to alter his will. The NRA will no longer get his money.

"The rot had gotten worse and I simply decided: No, I'm not giving those people my money," Olson said.

Olson reflects what has become a new challenge for the NRA as its legal and financial issues stack up: the loss of big donors.

The NRA attributes much of its success and power to rank-and-file members who contribute a few dollars here and there throughout the year, but it's the big-ticket donors who fuel the organization's finances. They also play a role in who serves on the board of directors and are active on the NRA social and fundraising scene, whether it's at galas or hunting trips.

And there are signs that some of them are growing uneasy over the NRA's troubles.

One of them went so far as to file a lawsuit against the NRA claiming misuse of funds and started a website that seeks changes to the NRA — from the ouster of longtime CEO Wayne LaPierre, to halving the size of the 76-member board of directors.

The donor, David Dell'Aquila, also claims that he has gotten others like him to withhold millions of dollars.

Over the years, Dell'Aquila has given about \$100,000 and he and his wife pledged to bequeath several million dollars from an estate he amassed after a career as a technology consultant.

Large donors have long been a reliable source of money for the NRA, helping fuel the clout that it wields in American politics.



This Oct. 28, 2019, photo, shows David Dell'Aquila in his home Monday, Oct. 28, 2019, in Nashville, Tenn.

In 2017, the NRA received seven donations of more than \$1 million, including one for more than \$18 million, according to tax records. The NRA's 2018 records are not available yet, meaning it's too early to know how the recent turmoil engulfing the group affected contributions. Despite the handful of million-dollar-plus donors, the group saw its overall contributions plummet from \$124 million in 2016 to \$98 million in 2017.

An NRA member for about 20 years, Dell'Aquila became more heavily involved after attending an annual meeting for the first time in 2015 in Nashville, Tennessee, where he lives. A longtime hunter, Dell'Aquila said it was af-

ter that meeting that he decided to contribute big sums to the NRA, seeing it as an organization that would help preserve gun rights.

He went in with gusto, becoming a member of the Charlton Heston Society, an elite group of NRA faithful. Then, earlier this year, Dell'Aquila started to hear the rumors and see media reports of excessive spending by NRA leaders. He witnessed the showdown that spilled out in the public during this year's annual meeting, when then-President Oliver North was denied a second term after seeking LaPierre's resignation.

When Dell'Aquila asked some NRA directors and others at headquarters for more information on how

donations were being spent, he said he didn't get sufficient answers.

"I was just getting lip service," he said.

A few months ago, he filed a lawsuit against the NRA claiming it has engaged in fraud and financial misconduct. The lawsuit cites many of the allegations that have emerged in other legal cases in recent months, including that LaPierre expensed hundreds of thousands of dollars in wardrobe purchases at a high-end clothier.

Carolyn Meadows, the NRA's new president, called the lawsuit "a misguided and frivolous pursuit."

"Here's all you need to know: This lawsuit parrots claims from an individual who has worked

for anti-NRA organizations and openly campaigned against our cause and our Association. End of story," Meadows said.

While some big donors such as Olson and Dell'Aquila have pulled back, other big donors have doubled down.

Janet Nyce, a longtime member who along with her husband has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years, said she called up NRA headquarters and felt they were open and honest about the challenges facing the organization, assuring her that the donations were being well spent.

When she got a call one day from another NRA member asking if she wanted to participate in a movement to withhold donations, she and her husband instead pulled out their wallets and wrote out checks to the NRA.

"We are supporting the NRA, there's just no two ways about it," she said.

Joe Gregory, who is the CEO of an investment firm and founder of the NRA's Golden Ring of Freedom — a group of NRA donors who have contributed or pledged at least \$1 million — chalked up the turmoil to internal politics and defended LaPierre's expenses as a necessary part of being a CEO.

The demands pushed by Dell'Aquila, he said, "border on being unrealistic and not serious."

He's especially disappointed to see some of his fellow big donors start to abandon the NRA, particularly as the 2020 presidential election approaches and the NRA's influence in preserving the Second Amendment is at stake. "It's important that we stick together," he said. For Dell'Aquila's part, he's not ready to back down from his fight.

He's even planning to attend next year's annual meeting, which will again be held in Nashville. He said he wants to see if LaPierre and others in the inner circle will talk with him.

"I'm not one to back down," he said. □



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A Porsche is removed from the second story of a building after the convertible went airborne and crashed into the second floor of a New Jersey commercial building early Sunday, killing both of the car's occupants, in Toms River, N.J.

Associated Press

2 dead after Porsche crashes into building's 2nd floor

TOMS RIVER, N.J. (AP)—Police say a convertible traveling at high speed went airborne and crashed into the second floor of a New Jersey commercial building, killing both of the car's occupants. Toms River police say the red Porsche Boxster went out of control just after 6:30 a.m. Sunday. The car hit the center median, struck an embankment and went airborne into the building. Police said two Toms River men, 22-year-old Braden

DeMartin and 23-year-old Daniel Foley, were deceased when emergency responders arrived at the scene. Police said the structure, which was unoccupied at the time, had been deemed unsafe by a building inspector. Sgt. Vincent Padalino said the building, which is across from Hooper Avenue Elementary School, houses four businesses, including a counseling service and a real estate company. □



In this Friday, Nov. 8, 2019, photo, FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge George Chamberlin, from left, speaks as Gabriel Gundersen, an FBI supervisory special agent with the Oregon Cyber Task Force, center, and Loren Cannon, FBI special agent in charge of the Portland Division, in Portland, Ore., to reporters about the rise of cybercrime in Oregon.

Associated Press

FBI: Cybercrimes on the rise because of sophisticated scams

By **ANDREW SELSKY**

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — On Dec. 14, 2018, Aaron Cole was about to buy a new house and received an email that he thought was from his title company, directing him to make a \$123,000 deposit. Cole complied, not realizing that a sophisticated hacker network had likely been spying on his communications with the title company and that although the email looked like others he had received from the title company, this time, the email address was slightly different. A week later, the title company called, advising him it was time to send money. The Oregon man sudden-

ly realized he had given away his family's life savings to criminals. The money was from the sale of their former house. "It was the worst feeling," Cole said Friday. "And then having to go home and tell my wife that I just gave away all the money. She could tell right when I walked in the house and just sat down, and I just couldn't come up with the words to tell her." In 2015, \$220 million was lost to wire fraud in the United States. In 2019, losses will surpass \$1.5 billion, according to WFG National Title Insurance Company. In the past, attempts to trick people were often clumsy, FBI agents told journalists

on Friday. Now they can be sophisticated. If people are asked via email to transfer money under a deadline, they should not rush and instead call a known number of the person the email is purportedly from and confirm the request, the agents said. "The emails have gotten well-crafted and quite detailed. They're highly tailored to that particular victim," said Gabriel Gundersen, an FBI supervisory special agent with the Oregon Cyber Task Force. "It's a social engineering piece, where they're coercing a victim to do something based on an artificial agenda or an artificial timeline." □



650 seats, 46 million voters: The UK election in numbers

LONDON (AP) — There's just over a month to go until Britain's Dec. 12 election, and the country's political parties are battling over funding promises, policy priorities and Brexit plans. Here is a look at some key numbers in an election that could determine not only who governs Britain, but when, how — or even whether — the country leaves the European Union: 46 million: The number of eligible voters in the U.K.

650: The number of seats in the House of Commons, all up for grabs in the election. Any party that wins a majority — or becomes the largest party, even without a majority — can form a government, with its leader as prime minister.

298: The number of seats held before the election by Prime Minister Boris Johnson's ruling Conservatives — more than 20 short of a majority. The government's lack of a majority meant it struggled to pass key measures needed for Britain to leave the European Union.



Britain's Liberal Democrats leader Jo Swinson makes a speech at a rally at the Battersea Arts Centre in Lavender Hill, while on the General Election campaign trail in London, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

243: The number of seats held by the left-of-center opposition Labour Party, which is battling to return to office for the first time since 2010. Labour plans to downplay Brexit and focus on health care, education and social welfare, which all saw funding cuts un-

der Conservative governments.

96: The number of years since Britain last had a December election. British elections are usually held in the late spring, when the weather is better and the days are longer.

82: The number of days until Britain is due to leave the EU. Brexit day was supposed to be Oct. 31, but with Britain's politicians deadlocked, the EU granted a three-month delay until Jan. 31.

72: The number of law-

makers not running for re-election amid Britain's toxic political atmosphere. Politicians on both sides of the Brexit argument have received abuse and threats. Those leaving include many moderate pro-EU Conservatives, Labour legislators who say their party has not stamped out anti-Semitism and high-profile female legislators, who have received a disproportionate amount of abuse.

42.8%: The portion of political parties' campaign spending that went to digital advertising during the last election in 2017 — up from just 0.3% in 2011. It's expected to be even more this time.

35: The number of seats in Parliament held by the Scottish National Party, which opposes Brexit and wants Scotland to leave the U.K. and become an independent country.

20: The number of seats held in Parliament by the pro-EU Liberal Democrats, who want to cancel Brexit altogether. □

Western Balkan leaders seek to create region without borders



Albania's Prime Minister Edi Rama talks for the media during a joint news conference, following the Western Balkan leaders' meeting in the southwestern town of Ohrid, North Macedonia, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

By **BORIS GRDANOSKI**
Associated Press

OHRID, North Macedonia (AP) — Leaders in the Western Balkans said Sunday that they are committed to working closely together to remove barriers on the free movement of goods and people between their countries. They also reiterated that their main goal

is to become members of the European Union.

"There is no sustainable alternative for this goal," said a joint statement released after the meeting.

Prime ministers Edi Rama of Albania and Zoran Zaev of North Macedonia, along with Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic, met in the lakeside town of Ohrid to

discuss concrete measures for establishing a free trade zone to boost economic growth and foreign investment. It has been dubbed "little Schengen," after the EU's free transit zone.

Bosnia and Montenegro are willing to join the zone, but Kosovo did not send a representative to the summit.

Relations among Western Balkan countries remain tense after the wars amid the breakup of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s.

"We discussed our dream to create a modern Balkans and a better place to live", Zaev said. Vucic said that the trade initiative was an opportunity for countries to save more than 220 million euros (\$242 million) by setting up joint checkpoints for customs and administrative services. □



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Spain's national vote an epic struggle between left, right

By ARITZ PARRA
CIARAN GILES
Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Polls have closed in continental Spain in the country's national election, where left-wing and right-wing parties are fiercely competing to see who can form the next co-

The RTVE survey, which polled more than 13,000 voters between Oct. 25 and Sunday's ballot, signaled that Spain may run into another political stalemate. It had a margin of error of 0.82 percentage points

The entire 350-seat lower

called after the Socialists and United We Can — currently Spain's fourth-largest party in parliament — failed to reach an agreement following the last election in April.

"We think that combining the courage of United We Can and the experience of

the Socialist party we can convert our country into a reference point for social policies," Iglesias said Sunday.

Spain's four main parties have focused their campaigns on how to deal with the independence push in the northeastern region of

Catalonia and the feared surge of the far-right Vox party.

Polls suggest that turnout could be a factor, with voter fatigue looming. As of 6 p.m., 56.8% of eligible voters had cast ballots, down from 60.7% in the April 28 election. □



A man casts his vote for the general election in Barcelona, Spain, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

alition government.

A survey by Spain's public broadcaster released as the polls closed says the ruling Socialists are en route to win the country's second election this year but will be even further from putting together a parliamentary majority. In the last vote in April, the Socialists won 123 seats in the parliament's lower house, 53 seats short of a majority. The survey predicts the Socialists will lose up to nine seats.

The survey also shows that the far-right Vox party is poised to become Spain's third-biggest political force only six months after it debuted in the country's parliament.

house and 208 senators were being elected Sunday, chosen by Spain's 37 million eligible voters. Polls in the Canary Islands remain open for another hour.

Earlier in the day, a leading leftist party pledged to help Spain's incumbent Socialists in hopes of staving off a possible right-wing coalition government that could include the far-right Vox party.

Spain's United We Can party leader Pablo Iglesias said he will offer assistance to the Socialists, led by interim Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez, to form a stable leftist government. Sunday's repeated election was



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Rights group calls Iraqi crackdown on protests a 'bloodbath'

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
BAGHDAD (AP) — Amnesty International said Sunday that Iraq's crackdown on anti-government protests has descended into a "bloodbath."

At least 319 protesters have been killed so far by security forces since the unrest began last month, according to the latest figures from the Iraqi Human Rights Commission released Sunday.

Iraqi security forces put up concrete barriers in central Baghdad in an effort to hamper and block the protesters' movements. The measures come after security forces on Monday violently cleared demonstrators from three flash-point bridges in central Baghdad. By the end of the day, six anti-government protesters were killed more than 100 wounded.

The widening security crackdown reflects government intransigence and narrowing options for protesters who have been on



An anti-government protester is surrounded by tear gas fired by Iraqi security forces in an effort to disperse demonstrators, in central Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

the streets of Baghdad and the mainly Shiite south's cities for weeks. Authorities shut down internet access and blocked social media sites several times amid the demonstrations.

The leaderless, economically driven protests are

targeting Iraq's entire political class and calling for the overhaul of the sectarian system established after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. Security forces have used live ammunition, rubber bullets and tear gas in an effort to quell the protests,

the Iraqi Human Rights Commission said. Amnesty International said Iraqi authorities should immediately rein in security forces.

"The government of Iraq has a duty to protect its people's right to life, as well

as to gather and express their views. This bloodbath must stop now, and those responsible for it must be brought to justice," said Heba Morayef, Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa Director.

"All government promises of reforms or investigations ring hollow while security forces continue to shoot and kill protesters," she said. The protesters' most immediate demand is for the resignation of Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi's government. He's held the post for just over a year, and is refusing to step down.

On Sunday, security forces closed roads near the Khilani Square with one-meter high concrete barriers, trying to block protesters from reaching Baghdad's landmark Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the protests, and the Sanak bridge.

At least 19 protesters were wounded when security forces used tear gas to repel them, according to police and hospital sources. □

Iran discovers new oil field with over 50 billion barrels

By AMIR VAHDAT
TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran has discovered a new oil field in the country's south with over 50 billion barrels of crude, its president said Sunday, a find that could boost the country's proven reserves by a third as it struggles to sell energy abroad over U.S. sanctions. The announcement by Hassan Rouhani comes as Iran faces crushing American sanctions after the U.S. pulled out of its nuclear deal with world powers last year.

Rouhani made the announcement in a speech in the desert city of Yazd. He said the field was located in Iran's southern Khuzestan province, home to its crucial oil industry.

Some 53 billion barrels would be added to Iran's proven reserves of roughly 150 billion, he said.

"I am telling the White House that in the days when you sanctioned the sale of Iranian oil and pressured our nation, the coun-



In this photo released by the official website of the office of the Iranian Presidency, President Hassan Rouhani waves to the crowd in a public gathering at the city of Yazd, some 410 miles (680 kilometers) southeast of the capital Tehran, Iran, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

try's dear workers and engineers were able to discover 53 billion barrels of oil in a big field," Rouhani said. Oil reserves refer to crude that's economically feasible to extract. Figures

can vary wildly by country due to differing standards, though it remains a yardstick of comparison among oil-producing nations. Iran currently has the world's fourth-largest prov-

en deposits of crude oil and the world's second-largest deposits of natural gas. It shares a massive offshore field in the Persian Gulf with Qatar.

The new oil field could be-

come Iran's second-largest field after one containing 65 billion barrels in Ahvaz. The field is 2,400 square kilometers (925 square miles), with the deposit some 80 meters (260 feet) deep, Rouhani said.

Since the U.S. withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal, the other countries involved — Germany, France, Britain, Russia and China — have been struggling to save it. However, they've offered no means by which Iran can sell its oil abroad.

Any company or government that buys Iran's oil faces harsh U.S. sanctions, the threat of which also stopped billions of dollars in business deals and sharply depreciated Iran's currency, the rial.

Iran has since gone beyond the deal's stockpile and enrichment limits, as well as started using advanced centrifuges barred by the deal. It also just began injecting uranium gas into centrifuges at an underground facility. □

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Cyclone kills at least 14 in India, Bangladesh

By JULHAS ALAM
Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)

— A strong cyclone lashed northeastern India and Bangladesh on Sunday, killing several people in both countries after more than 2 million moved to shelters across Bangladesh's vast coastal region, officials and news reports said.

Cyclone Bulbul left at least seven people dead in India's West Bengal state, where the storm first made landfall at around midnight Saturday, the Press Trust of India news agency reported. The storm then made its way to neighboring Bangladesh, where seven people were killed, according to the United News of Bangladesh news agency.

Enamur Rahman, Bangla-

desh's junior disaster management minister, said about 5,000 homes across the country's coastal region were damaged and many trees were uprooted by the cyclone. The Agriculture Ministry said more than 200,000 hectares (494,200 acres) of crop land were damaged in Bangladesh. Packing winds of up to 120 kilometers (75 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 130 kph (80 mph), Bulbul weakened when it started crossing Bangladesh's southwestern coastal region, dumping incessant rain across the country.

Bangladesh's weather office said the cyclone first slammed ashore at Sagar Island in the southern part of India's West Bengal state before moving to Bangla-



A woman covers her head with a plastic sheet as it rains in Kolkata, India, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

desh. Its path included the southwestern Khulna region, which has the world's largest mangrove forest, the Sundarbans, which straddles the Bangladesh-India border.

The weather office said the

Sundarbans protected the region, lessening the impact of the cyclone.

Five people were killed in Bagerhat, Khulna and Patuakhali districts as the storm crossed through Khulna and the adjoining south-

western part of Bangladesh early Sunday before weakening into a deep depression, United News of Bangladesh reported.

Meanwhile, two other people who took shelter in cyclone centers died of cardiac arrest after being panicked in Patuakhali and Satkhira districts when the storm started battering the region, the news agency said.

Rahman said authorities moved more than 2.1 million people to over 5,000 shelters before the cyclone crossed the coast.

The weather office had warned that coastal districts were likely to be inundated by storm surges of 1½-2 meters (5-7 feet) above normal tide because of the storm. □

Japan emperor greets at celebration hosted by conservatives

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese Emperor Naruhito thanked tens of thousands of well-wishers who gathered outside the palace Saturday to congratulate his enthronement at a ceremony organized by conservative political and business groups.

Naruhito and Empress Masako greeted well-wishers from the Nijubashi bridge overlooking the crowd who shouted cheers of Banzai, or long live, for the emperor in unison, while waving Japanese "rising sun" flags.

The royal couple held paper lanterns and moved them up and down in harmony with the Banzai cheers.

Naruhito, who has pledged to stay close to the people, expressed his sympathy to the victims and residents hit by deadly storms last month.

"I deeply appreciate that so many of you gathered despite the cold weather today to celebrate my enthronement," said Naruhito, standing next to his Harvard-educated wife, also a

former diplomat.

The celebration featured music and dance performances, including the song "Ray of Water" performed by the hugely popular Japanese male pop group Arashi and dedicated to the emperor, who is known for his studies of water.

Naruhito said the devastation caused by Typhoon Hagibis and a severe rainstorm in October "has pained my heart," and expressed hope for a speedy reconstruction in the affected areas. □



Japanese Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako wave as they make a public appearance during a ceremony to celebrate his enthronement in Tokyo Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

Under pressure, Bolivian president calls for new election

By **PAOLA FLORES**
CARLOS VALDEZ
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Buckling under mounting pressure, Bolivian President Evo Morales on Sunday called for a new election after his claim to have won a fourth term triggered fraud allegations, deadly protests and dissension among security forces.

South America's longest-serving leader made the announcement after a preliminary report by the Organization of American States found a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 presidential contest and said a new vote should be held.

The unrest that has left three people dead and over 100 injured in clashes between supporters and opponents of Morales represents the biggest crisis in the socialist leader's nearly 14 years in power.

Adding to Bolivia's leadership crisis, César Navarro, the mines minister, as well as Chamber of Depu-



Bolivia's President Evo Morales looks on during a press conference in La Paz, Bolivia, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

ties President Victor Borda and three other pro-government legislators announced their resignations. All said opposition supporters had threatened their families.

Also Sunday, the attorney general's office said it will investigate judges on the Supreme Electoral Tribunal

for alleged fraud following the OAS report.

Without mentioning the report, Morales said he would replace the electoral tribunal and urged all political parties to help bring peace to the Andean nation.

"We all have to pacify Bolivia," he said.

Bolivians honked car horns

and broke into cheers and applause in the streets as the OAS findings came out. "The battle has been won," said Waldo Albarracín, a public defender and activist. "Now, the duty is to guarantee an ideal electoral tribunal."

The man Morales claimed to have defeated, oppo-

sition leader and former President Carlos Mesa, said the OAS report showed "monstrous fraud," and he added that Morales "can't be a candidate in new elections."

Morales did not say whether he will run again.

"The priority is to choose a new electoral tribunal and figure out when we'll have the new elections," he told local radio Panamericana. Morales, 60, became the first president from Bolivia's indigenous population in 2006 and presided over a commodities-fed economic boom in South America's poorest country. The former leader of a coca growers union, he paved roads, sent Bolivia's first satellite into space and curbed inflation.

But many who were once excited by his fairy-tale rise have grown wary of his reluctance to leave power. He ran for a fourth term after refusing to abide by the results of a referendum that upheld term limits for the president. □

Freed Brazil ex-President tells crowd left can win in 2022

By **MARIO LOBÃO**
DIANE JEANTET
Associated Press

SAO BERNARDO DO CAMPO, Brazil (AP) — Freed from prison, former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva told thousands of jubilant supporters on Saturday that the left can take back the presidency in the 2022 election.

Dressed in a black blazer and T-shirt, da Silva spoke from a stage outside the union near Sao Paulo that he once led and that served as the base for his political career. The crowd of red-clad supporters cheered and waved flags. "We are going to do a lot of fighting. Fighting is not one day on, then three months off, then back. Fighting is every day," da Silva said. The 74-year-old former leader said he would bring the energy of a 30-year-old to the streets.

In his 45-minute speech, he spoke briefly of conser-



Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva acknowledges supporters during a rally at the Metal Workers Union headquarters, in Sao Bernardo do Campo, Brazil, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

vative President Jair Bolsonaro, who won the 2018 election after da Silva's conviction barred him from running. Da Silva said Brazilians must accept the results of the democratic election and work to defeat the "ultra-right" in 2022.

He also called for solidarity with fellow South American countries and lambasted U.S. President Donald

Trump, saying his border wall plan is unacceptable and aimed at keeping out poor people.

"Trump should resolve Americans' problems and not bother Latin Americans. He wasn't elected to be the world's sheriff," da Silva said. In a Twitter post on Friday, he said he backed U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign.

Brazil's Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that a person can be jailed only after all appeals to higher courts have been exhausted. Da Silva was released the next day, after 19 months imprisonment.

He is still appealing his conviction related to the alleged purchase of a beachfront apartment and remains entangled in other cases. He was also convicted by a lower court judge in a case centered around ownership of a farmhouse in Atibaia, outside Sao Paulo.

If he loses his appeals in either conviction, he could be locked up once again. Da Silva has denied any wrongdoing and accused prosecutors and Sergio Moro, then a judge and now justice minister, of manipulating the case against him.

Moro said on Twitter earlier that the Supreme Court's decision should be respect-

ed, but Congress could alter the constitution to change when convicted criminals start serving their sentences.

Some Brazilian groups organized protests in dozens of cities in support of the Bolsonaro administration, but turnout was low.

Bolsonaro's son, Eduardo Bolsonaro, said on Twitter that da Silva's release will prompt people to set aside differences and unite against the Workers' Party, a sentiment which helped carry his father to the presidency.

President Bolsonaro has refrained from making a statement about da Silva, but Saturday appeared to allude to him on Twitter: "Don't give ammunition to the scoundrel, who is momentarily free, but loaded with guilt."

Da Silva said he had a message for his opponents in power: "I want to say to them: I'm back." □

LOCAL



Say thank you in Aruba Today

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Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. What Is It About?

Thanksgiving is on Thurs-



Susan loves the casinos, weather and friends



EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Marouska Heyliger honored Ms. Susan Paradise from Massachusetts with her Goodwill Ambassador certificate in the name of the Aruba Tourism Authority.

The event which commemorates her 25th consecutive visit to the island was held at Paradise Beach Villas.

Paradise loves coming to the island for the casinos, lovely weather and the friends and staff at Paradise Beach Villas. □

day November 28th, the day before Black Friday. Thanksgiving Day traditionally kicks off the 'holiday season' in the United States. The day was set in stone by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939 and approved by Congress in 1941. FDR changed it from Abraham Lincoln's designation as the last Thursday in November (because there are sometimes five Thursdays in the month).

While Thanksgiving is one of the biggest events in the American calendar, for Europeans it's always been a little bit of a mystery. What is it actually about? The most exposure many of us get to the holiday is by watching American television series' Thanksgiving-themed episodes - and even those tend to leave us in the dark.

Many Americans think it of it as just as important as Christmas. In fact, more people in the US celebrate Thanksgiving than they do

Christmas. Thanksgiving Day is a secular holiday in a country that officially separates church and state so this probably makes sense.

Thanksgiving can be traced back to 1621 where refugees from England, known as Pilgrims, invited the local Native Americans to a harvest feast after they experienced a successful season of produce growth. But it wasn't just the economic drive that allowed the Pilgrims to prosper. It was their devotion to God and His laws. And that's what Thanksgiving is really all about.

The Pilgrims recognized that everything we have is a gift from God - even our sorrows. Their Thanksgiving tradition was established to honor God and thank Him for His blessings and His grace.

Although the turkey is 'the face' of Thanksgiving nowadays, the first Thanksgiving did not even include tur-

key, but rather a three-day feast of goose, lobster, cod and deer. Besides turkey people love stuffing and pies - pumpkin, pecan, apple and sweet potato as the traditional desserts.

Why is American football relevant to Thanksgiving? In 1934, the University of Detroit hosted the first Thanksgiving Day football game between Detroit Lions and the Chicago Bears. The game became the first-ever network broadcast event in the US and was so popular that a Thanksgiving Day football game continues today - and Detroit has played every year since.

Today people from Canada, the United States, some of the Caribbean islands, and Liberia continue the Thanksgiving tradition in their homes - or when on vacation in their holiday destination. Aruba Today wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving. □

Celebrating six years: Aruba Ray's Comedy Club

PALM BEACH — The "Aruba Ray's Comedy" show features some of the funniest American standup comedians in a terrific 90-minute show, now located in the renovated ballroom at the Holiday Inn Resort.

Appearing in November:

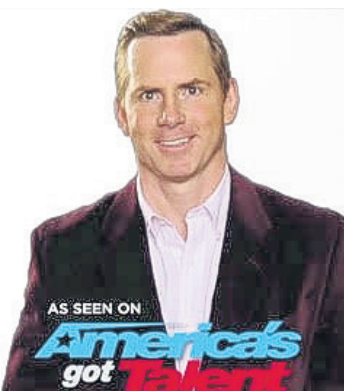
TOM COTTER, Finalist on "America's got talent"
MIKE VECCHIONE from "The Jimmy Fallon Show"
TONY V from CBS "The Late Show"
ERIN JACKSON from "Last Comic Standing"
and RAY ELLIN from "This week at the Comedy Celar" on Comedy Central

Celebrating six years of Excellence in Aruba, Aru-

ba Ray's Comedy is the number one rated Night Time Activity on TripAdvisor, the number one rated Show on TripAdvisor, and the number one rated Fun Activity on TripAdvisor. And it was named as one of USA Today's "10 Best!" This is the same caliber show you would find at the top comedy clubs in NYC. The comedians are truly some of the best from the United States, and perform in the Holiday Inn Ballroom in the high rise area. This wonderful show is a great way to spend a night out.

About Ray

Ray Ellin hosts and produces the shows. Considered by his peers to be the best



come first serve. To save money, it is suggested you purchase tickets in advance at www.Aruba-Comedy.com. You can also purchase tickets (subject to availability!) at the Ballroom showroom door at 7:30PM. Anyone can attend, however the show is suggested for a mature audience.

You can now also purchase dinner and a show, online, at www.Aruba-Comedy.com. Enjoy dinner at the fantastic DaVinci restaurant before the show begins!

Ask your concierge for assistance, or call the Holiday Inn Resort at 586-3600, or call Aruba Ray's Comedy Club at 749-4363. □

host in NYC, Ray is known as "Aruba Ray" because of his passion for Aruba. Ray has been coming to Aruba every month for the past seven years, and produces and hosts these incredible comedy shows on the island. He is a popular comedian in New York, and has brought his talent and colleagues to Aruba. Ray has appeared on many television programs; he has hosted the popular talk show Late Net, and hosted the television shows The Movie Loft, Brain Fuel, and New York Now. He also produced and directed the very successful film The Latin Legends of Comedy, distributed by 20th Century Fox. Ray is an executive producer and co-star on the television show This Week at the Cellar, on Comedy Central.

The shows are at 8:30PM, every night, from November 4th to November 20th, in the Ballroom at the Holiday Inn Resort. Doors open at 8pm. It is suggested to arrive early - seating is first



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Over 35 years vacationing in Aruba

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Goodwill Ambassadors and Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba.

The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively. The Emerald Ambassador certificate is presented to guests who visit Aruba 35 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were Randy & Linda De Graffenreid as Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba, and John & Erika Pzyrk as Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. The ceremony was one of importance to us because honoring guests who have been coming to Aruba for over 35 years is incredibly rare. It was a very memorable moment.

This lovely group of people stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, beautiful sunsets, delicious variety of foods, its safety, and Aruba's warm and friendly people that became like family to them.

Richardson together with the representatives of the Costa Linda Beach Resort presented the certificates to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □





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Win the Golden Key to your brand new Ford Figo at Ling & Sons Food Market

ORANJESTAD — Last Friday Ling & Sons Food Market launched their newest campaign for the end of the year. This is your chance to win a brand new car only by doing your groceries at Ling & Sons. The car that can be yours is Ford Figo 2020!

Car dealer Yrausquin & Sons are the official seller for the Ford Figo, an attractive car with great space and the latest safety features. For this special campaign Ling & Sons Food Market has eleven Golden Keys to give away but only one of them will open the Ford Figo. This is exciting, come

on over and shop with them to get your raffle ticket for every purchase of 50 Florin or by buying products from Heineken, Coors Light, Kim Crawford, Kendall-Jackson, Airwick, Badia, Grand Old Parr, Johnnie Walker, Frico, Frisian Flag or Rainforest Seafoods. VIP customers will receive double tickets with every purchase of 50 Florin. The more you shop with Ling & Sons, the bigger is your chance to win this beautiful car.

Snap a selfie, share & win

The other way to participate in this cam-



campaign is to take a selfie together with the Ford Figo at Ling & Sons Food Market. Share the picture on Facebook or Instagram and mention #Lingandsons #Yrausquin #Fordfigo. Now you're in. Visit www.lingandsons.com to read the rules of the game well. Ling & Sons will raffle ten winners January 4th 2020 at 12PM and one winner will be announced on Social Media for the campaign 'Snap a selfie, share & win'. The winners of the raffle will all receive a car key but only one will have the Golden Key to the Ford Figo 2020. January 11 the winner of the car will be announced. Good luck to all participants! The raffle will take place January 4th which will select eleven winners who receive a key. January 11 these eleven will try their luck with the key and one will be the big winner of the Ford Figo 2020. The others will not go home empty-handed as Ling & Sons will give those week-end-stays, tours, dinners for 2, cash prize.

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Heineken, Coors light, Kim Crawford, Kendall-Jackson, Airwick, Badia, Grand Old Parr, Johnnie Walker, Frico, Frisian Flag, Rainforest Seafoods

8. Vip customers receive double tickets with every purchase.

9. If a customer purchase is 50 florin and also includes one of the participating brands, the customer receives raffle tickets for both their 50 florin purchase and for the purchase of the participating brands.

10. Campaign ends on January 4th at 12:00pm. Ling & Sons will announce and call the 11 raffle winners on January 4th 2020.

11. 11 raffle winners will be chosen and invited to participate to win the car. Winners will be invited to pick an envelope which will reveal their prize. Finalists will advance to the final round to pick the winning key. Only 1 key will access the car and thus be the winner of the car.

12. The date for the key competition is January 11th 2020.

13. Ling & Sons holds the right to change the regulations or to end the campaign at any moment.

Raffle winners who do not win the car will receive a consolation prize from Ling & Sons.

14. The car winner will be handed the keys and proof of ownership. Once this is handed Ling & Sons is no longer responsible for the car.

15. The new owner must handle anything related to the car with the car dealership. □

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Friday at 8:00pm

Caribbean Night

Tuesday at 8:00pm

Aruba Has Talent

Saturday at 8:00pm

Violin Night

Wednesday at 8:00pm

Noche Latina

Sunday at 8:00pm

Aruba Has Talent

Thursday at 8:00pm

Circus Night

Every night at 7:30pm 8:30pm 9:30pm

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Campaign rules

1. This campaign is only valid for residents of Aruba.
2. You must be 18yrs or older and have a valid driving license.
3. The name on the raffle ticket needs to match your I.D. and is the one participating to open the car.
4. If you do not comply with term 1 or 2 than you automatically will be disqualified.
5. If you are not able to show up on set date and time to open the car, you will automatically be disqualified.
6. Customers receive 1 raffle ticket with every



Column by: Shanella Pantophlet

'It's the season

ORANJESTAD — The one sure fire way to tell high season is about to kick off is a sudden boost in occupancy. After the mad rush of summer and the slow pace of September and October, November serves as the herald of the upcoming busy period for hotels.



We all suffered through a pretty low September across the board, with both occupancy and ADR (average daily rate) dropping for that month. A phenomena caused by the lack of the Venezuelan market to tide us through a slow September and October period. One interesting thing that came out of that though, is with a quieter than usual pool/ beach area, we actually generated more sales of people wanting to come down this time of year. Which makes sense since once summer is done and school vacation is over, it gives those of dual income with no kids an opportunity to vacation to Aruba on a budget and without the hassle of waking up early to reserve a place on the beach or pool deck. The take away being if you want a relaxing vacation maybe consider September and October as the best travel times.

Of course the chill of the previous two months was bound to give way to the madness of the upcoming holiday season. Once Halloween is

out of the way, most of us start looking toward Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. I like to separate this period into two groups, the pre-holiday vacationers who want to get away for a bit before the holidays and then be with their family at home. They're usually the ones who come in the first two weeks of November to fill up your rooms. After them you have the next group who enjoy getting away from it all, especially the snow, by coming to Aruba and spending their holidays on the beach.

The second group gets to experience the holidays in a more low key way, with the resort doing all the decorating and promoting the holiday cheer. It's a no muss no fuss type of season where if you want a big holiday meal all you need to do is hit up your local restaurant, which hopefully you've booked way in advance of your arrival.

Knowing these groups and being able to predict what they expect from their vacation is key to a successful busy season. In both man-

agers and team meetings discussions are already being had about inventory and supplies. We take data from the previous year and go over what went right and what went wrong, in an effort to make sure everyone is working on the same page. Based on the information gathered and the holiday spread of either being in week or on the weekend, schedules are being adapted.

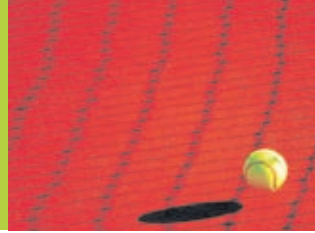
Everyone is giving employees as much vacation as possible now, so that we will be fully staffed once the hotel is at 100% capacity. We want to be able to deliver the best service to our most particular guests and that means making sure our employees are well rested and have all the tools they need to meet and exceed expectations.

All our guests should see is the calm, while the buzzing storm happens in the background as we get ready for the upcoming holiday period. It's going to be interesting. □



Aruban born and bred Shanella Pantophlet is passionate about tourism. That is the world she studied and works in, so we might as well call her a specialist. Luckily for Aruba Today Shanella also loves to write. And together with the fact that the majority of our readers are tourists, we found ourselves a perfect combination for a column: Hotel Hustle.

SPORTS



Seattle Sounders' Kelvin Leerdam (18) celebrates after scoring against the Toronto FC, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, during the second half of the MLS Cup championship soccer match in Seattle.

Associated Press

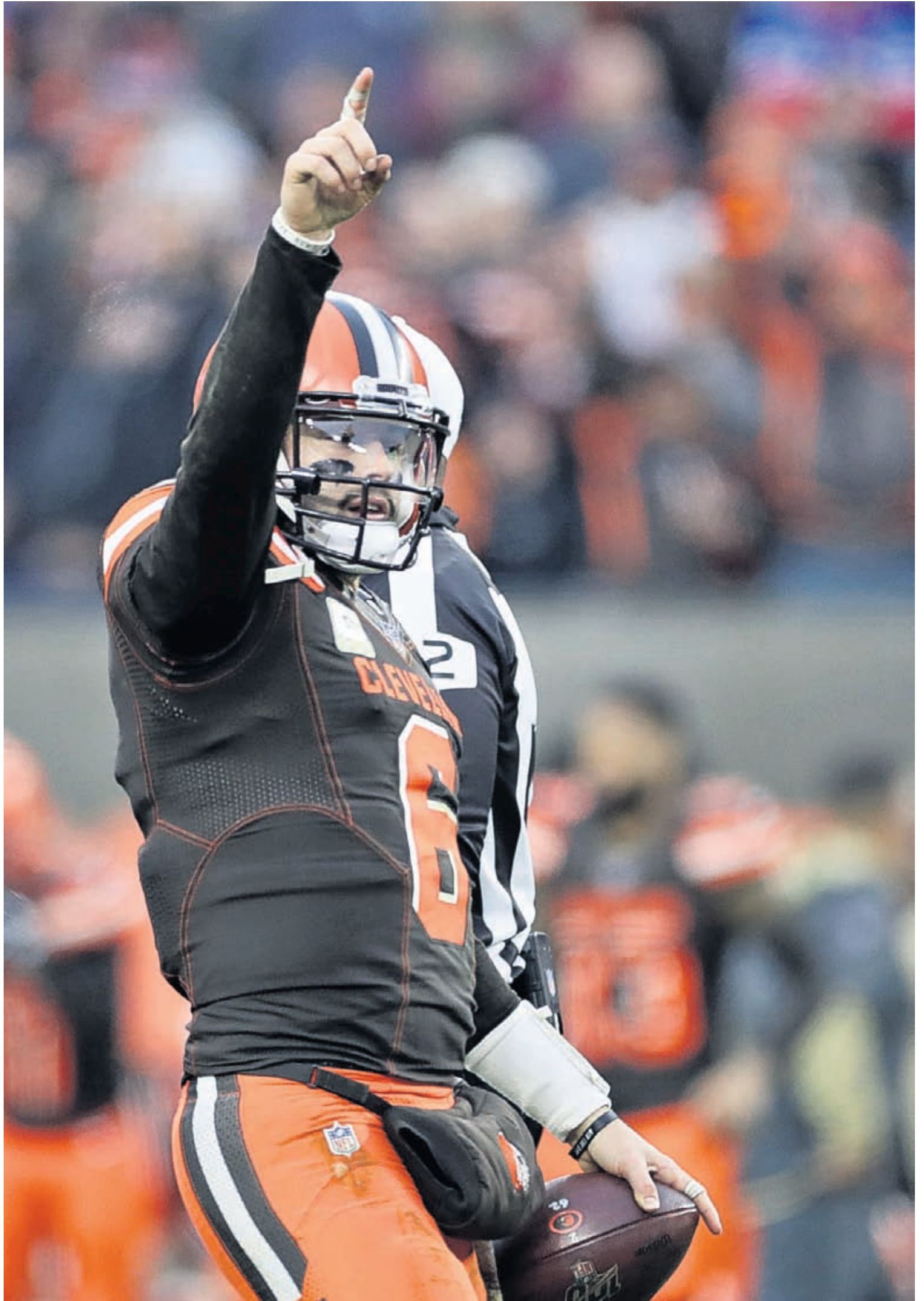
Sounders claim 2nd title in 4 years, beating Toronto FC 3-1

SEATTLE (AP) — They waited a decade to enjoy a celebration like this. As the Seattle Sounders paraded the championship trophy around their home stadium, only those clad in red headed for the exits.

Ten years after helping change the scope of Major League Soccer, Seattle finally got to see its home team host the championship match. And it was rewarded with a second celebration in the past four years.

"The players and the fans deserve this," Seattle coach Brian Schmetzer said. "The players persevered because again it was a first-half we needed to make some adjustments and they never quit. And the fans never stopped believing. I'm very happy and proud for the city and the fans."

Continued on Page 23



Cleveland Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield celebrates after the Browns defeated the Buffalo Bills 19-16 in an NFL football game Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

Thiem beats Federer at ATP Finals; Djokovic cruises

LONDON (AP) — Dominic Thiem keeps getting the better of Roger Federer. Thiem beat Federer 7-5, 7-5 Sunday in their opening match at the ATP Finals for his fifth win in seven meetings with the Swiss great — and third straight this year. Thiem broke in the opening game of the match and again for a 6-5 lead in the first set after Federer had leveled at 2-2. The second set went with serve until Thiem broke at love for another 6-5 lead. Federer, a record six-time champion at the ATP Finals, then missed two break points in the next game before netting a backhand return on Thiem's second match point.

Thiem also beat Federer at the Madrid Masters and in the Indian Wells final this year, but lost to him in the group stage at last year's ATP Finals.

Novak Djokovic had a much easier start to the tournament, easing past Matteo Berrettini 6-2, 6-1 in their first round-robin match.

But despite a near flawless performance, Djokovic still found a way to berate himself.

Leading 4-0 in the second set against the Italian, Djokovic hit a backhand wide to concede a break to the Italian, and then angrily turned toward his player's box and shouted out his frustration.

It was a clear sign that even at the end of another grueling season, Djokovic won't tolerate any dips in his game as he pursues a record-equaling sixth ATP Finals title.

"There's no other reasonable explanation (to that reaction) than trying to play as perfect as possible," Djokovic said. "But I guess that's me, you know."

It was certainly the same Djokovic that the O2 Arena crowd has become used to seeing. Although the second-ranked Serb — who won four straight titles at the year-end event in London between 2012 and 2015 — only needed

to hit a total of 10 winners in the match as Berrettini's 28 unforced errors handed him an easy victory to start round-robin play.

Berrettini's forehand was responsible for 18 of those errors, including two shots into the net to hand Djokovic the only two breaks of the first set.

After giving up that lone break to make it 4-1 in the second, Djokovic broke right back and then clinched the victory with an easy forehand putaway at the net.

"He missed a relatively easy forehand for him that gave me a break (in the first set)," Djokovic said. "And after that I started reading his serve better."

Berrettini was making his debut at the event for the world's top eight players and had never faced Djokovic before. He also said he struggled a bit with the speed of the indoor hard court at the O2.

"The ball is not jumping a lot, so it's tough to mix, especially my forehand," Berrettini said. "I think it's better when I have a little bit more time and the ball takes more spin. I think I started the match pretty good, but he was just better than me today." The other four-man group features Rafael Nadal, defending champion Alexander Zverev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Daniil Medvedev. They begin play on Monday. □



Austria's Dominic Thiem plays a return to Switzerland's Roger Federer during their ATP World Tour Finals singles tennis match at the O2 Arena in London, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

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Season saver: Mayfield, Browns stop slide, beat Bills 19-16

By **TOM WITHERS**
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — When Buffalo's game-tying field-goal try with 22 seconds left failed to clear the uprights, the Browns spilled onto the field and celebrated almost from goal line to goal line.

They jumped. They hugged. They exhaled.

Their season has new life.

Baker Mayfield threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Rashard Higgins with 1:44 left as Cleveland snapped a four-game losing streak — and took some pressure off first-year coach Freddie Kitchens — with a 19-16 win on Sunday over the Bills, who couldn't come up with one last goal-line stand.

"We needed to have that," Mayfield said.

With Kitchens under fire and their playoff hopes fading fast, the Browns (3-6) rallied for their first win at home and kept their season from completely collapsing.

Not easy. Not pretty. Welcomed.

"This is a good start for us," said star receiver Odell Beckham Jr., who had five catches for 57 yards. "We got a tough win against a very good team."

Cleveland survived more problems in the red zone — the Browns scored just three points despite 12 plays inside Buffalo's 3-yard line — but sealed the much-needed victory when Buffalo's Stephen Hauschka's was off the mark on a 53-yard field goal. Earlier, Hauschka missed a 34-yarder.

"I hit it OK, but not the way you need to hit it from that distance," Hauschka said. "I didn't really get all of it going in that direction. With a little bit of right to left wind it's going to take it if you don't get it all."

Quarterback Josh Allen



Buffalo Bills kicker Stephen Hauschka (4) misses a 53-yard field goal late during the second half of an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns, Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

had two touchdown runs for the Bills (6-3), who were off to their best start since 1993.

For most of the game Allen outplayed Mayfield, who finally delivered a clutch drive after the Bills QB put his team ahead 16-12 with a 1-yard sneak.

On second-and-goal, Mayfield threaded his TD pass to an open Higgins, who had been suspiciously missing from Cleveland's game plan this season after being one of Mayfield's favorite targets last season. It was Higgins' only catch.

"I had a dream I scored — and it happened," said Higgins.

"Not like that, the game-winner. In my dream, I woke pretty quickly. I don't know how it ended."

Mayfield had his second straight solid game, completing 26 of 38 passes for 238 yards and two TDs. He didn't throw an interception for the second week in

a row.

However, Cleveland struggled again to complete drives as the Bills stopped them on 12 plays inside the 3-yard line, holding Cleveland to three points.

"We had the big goal-line stand, but at the end of the day when the game is in your hands and you figure the defense is the bell cow of your team, we had to come up with a play to stop them," Bills linebacker Lorenzo Alexander said.

Browns running back Kareem Hunt made his debut for Cleveland and picked up 74 combined yards. The 24-year-old was eligible after completing an eight-game NFL suspension for two violent acts, including shoving and kicking a woman while he played for Kansas City.

"There are not enough words to tell how I felt being back out there," Hunt said. "I was thankful, sad. A couple times, I thought I

was going to shed a tear. It's really good to be back home with the Browns. Any time I get an opportunity to make a play, I'm going to do it."

Nick Chubb rushed for 116 yards on 20 carries for the Browns, and Jarvis Landry had nine catches for 97 yards and made a crucial, over-the-shoulder catch on Cleveland's game-winning drive.

"Honestly, I've been working on stuff like that a lot," he said. "I just looked over my shoulder and the ball was there."

BUFFALO STANCE

The Bills stopped the Browns on eight straight plays at the 1 — the equivalent of two goal-line stands — in the first quarter. They stuffed Chubb on five carries, and Buffalo overcame a pair of pass interference calls in the end zone while keeping the Browns off the scoreboard.

"Our defense played ex-

tremely well today," Allen said. "They gave us a chance. Everybody knows that you have to score more than 16 to win."

SAFETY FIRST

The Bills' defense tied it 9-9 early in the third as linebacker Tremaine Edmunds sacked Mayfield in the end zone. The Browns were in an empty backfield and didn't account for blocking Edmunds, who came in untouched off the left side and quickly wrapped up Mayfield.

RARE AIR

Chubb's 919 yards rushing through nine games are the most by a Cleveland player not named Jim Brown. The Hall of Famer and NFL legend owns the top five spots on the list, including a franchise-record 1,293 yards in 1963.

Chubb has four 100-yard rushing games this season, giving him nine in two years.

CALLAWAY BENCHED

The Browns sat No. 3 wide receiver Antonio Callaway, who had played in all four games since returning from a four-game drug suspension to start the season. Callaway had a big drop in his first game back and hasn't been as consistent as the Browns had hoped. Callaway's absence cleared the way for Higgins, who made his one catch count.

Kitchens wouldn't elaborate on Callaway's benching.

"It's between Antonio and I," he said.

Callaway warmed up on the field, but watched from a suite.

"He was going to be part of the game plan," Mayfield said. "But things happen."

UP NEXT

Bills: At Miami on Sunday.
Browns: Host the Pittsburgh Steelers on Thursday. □



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Hamlin races way into championship field with Phoenix win

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

AVONDALE, Ariz. (AP) —

Denny Hamlin adamantly insisted "it's not over" after a critical mistake last week put the Daytona 500 winner on the verge of elimination from NASCAR's championship race.

He remained undeterred, confident in his chances to win Sunday at ISM Raceway and save his season with a victory that would give him an automatic berth into the final four. He called his shot and delivered.

Hamlin snagged his first spot in the championship field since 2014 with his win, a victory that eliminated NASCAR champion Joey Logano from the playoffs and gave Joe Gibbs Racing and Toyota three of the slots in next week's decider at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"I try not to put too much into it," Hamlin said. "There's still work to be done. Doesn't guarantee a championship. Gives us a chance. Live to fight another day. That's all you can ask for." Hamlin, one of the favorites to win the title, faced elimination after spinning last week at Texas but took control and had the win essentially in the bag until a caution with nine laps remaining set up a final restart.

Hamlin, who had been terrible on restarts the entire race, punched his steering wheel in anger when the yellow flag waved. His Joe Gibbs Racing team made an unusual call to take just two tires — the same strategy as contender Ryan

Blaney — and the two lined up next to each other for the restart with three laps to go.

Hamlin finally got a decent restart, pulled into the lead, and Gibbs teammate Kyle Busch passed Blaney to put a buffer between the two. Hamlin then cruised to his sixth win of the season and punched the air with his fist in his car as he crossed the finish line. He jumped into the arms of his waiting crew, which he had promised earlier Sunday to give his all in an effort to make the championship field at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"This race team worked so hard this whole year. They deserve to be there," Hamlin said of his No. 11 crew. "I put them in a bad hole last week. I told them today in the meeting, I said, 'I'm going to give everything I've got to make up for the mistake I made last week.' That's all I got."

Hamlin will race Gibbs teammates Busch and Martin Truex Jr., as well as Kevin Harvick of Stewart-Haas Racing, for the championship. Gibbs, winner of 18 races this season, and Toyota have three of the slots in the final four.

"I feel like we are all here because we worked together," said Truex. Chevrolet will not be represented for the third consecutive season and Harvick races a Ford. Hamlin's win sealed the manufacturer championship for Toyota. Truex won the 2018 title, Busch won in 2015 and Harvick in 2014. All three raced for the championship last season against Logano,



Denny Hamlin celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series auto race Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, in Avondale, Ariz.

Associated Press

who won the finale to snag the title away from the three drivers who dominated the season. This year the final four is equally deserving of their spots in the finale — the champion has had to win the race at Homestead to claim the title every year since the elimination format debuted in 2014.

Hamlin has never won a championship, but had chances in 2010 and 2014 but had disappointing races — a decision not to take tires after a late caution took Hamlin from the lead to out of contention in the 2014 race.

"Denny has not won a championship, so you can imagine how hard he's going to go for it," said Gibbs. Chase Elliott, Kyle Larson,

Blaney and Logano were eliminated. Logano was seeking a chance to make it back-to-back titles but had a mechanical problem early in the final stage that dropped him deep into the field.

"No clue. An air pressure adjustment made it go from a winning car to not able to stay on the lead lap. That sounds ridiculous," said Logano. "We'll live. Everything is going to be OK. We're still fortunate to be here and grateful to do what we love."

ELLIOTT'S AWFUL ROUND

Elliott's championship chances ended with a crash in the final stage. He had to win to earn a berth at Homestead after a disastrous third round of the

playoffs.

NASCAR's most popular driver had a mechanical problem at Martinsville, crashed last week at Texas and crashed Sunday when he appeared to have a tire issue that caused him to spin.

"Just a continuation of our first two weeks," Elliott said. "I feel like we were in a good position to run solid. Not sure why we had a tire go down, I think that's what happened. These last three weeks have been rough."

UP NEXT

Sunday's championship-deciding finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway, the last time the track will host the finale. Logano is the defending race winner. □



Jokic, Nuggets hold on for 100-98 overtime win over Wolves

By **BRIAN HALL**

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — One game after a team-record comeback, the Denver Nuggets allowed the Minnesota Timberwolves to nearly do the same. Nikola Jokic saved Denver each time.

Jokic hit a fadeaway jumper with 2.4 seconds left to give the Nuggets a 100-98 overtime victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Sunday.

"At this point, you just sit back and watch it," Denver forward Paul Millsap said. "I believe in the shots he's making, and in those situations we've just got to give it to him."

Jokic was in a similar spot, hitting a winning jumper with 2.2 seconds left Friday night in a comeback victory at home against Philadelphia. He had 20 points, six rebounds and seven assists Sunday to help Denver win its fourth straight game. Will Barton had 13 points, including a pair of 3s in overtime, and 12 rebounds. Millsap scored all 14 of his points during a big third-quarter run and had 10 rebounds.

"They had really good momentum and we didn't shoot well," Jokic said of



Denver Nuggets' Nikola Jokic, right, of Serbia, shoots the go-ahead basket over Minnesota Timberwolves' Karl-Anthony Towns in the final seconds in overtime of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, in Minneapolis. The Nuggets won 100-98.

Associated Press

the late-game collapse. "They were really aggressive. But they sent it to over-

time, which was good for us. It gave us options to win the game."

Karl-Anthony Towns had 25 points and 16 rebounds for Minnesota. Towns pushed the game to overtime with a corner 3, but the Wolves shot a season-low 13.3% from 3-point range and 35.1% overall from the field. Andrew Wiggins added 25 points in Minnesota's third loss in four games.

"We understand we play tomorrow," Wolves coach Ryan Saunders said. "We said with about six minutes left, we're going to make one push here, give it about a minute and a half. We're down 16. These guys came back, they fought. I give so much credit to our players."

Denver led by 16 in the fourth when Gary Harris hit a 3 with 6:41 left. The Nuggets went scoreless the remainder of regulation and Minnesota put together a 16-0 streak.

"We have to better in terms of playing with the lead and closing games out," Denver coach Mike Malone said. "But we never panicked. I thought Will Barton down the stretch was huge - he made some big plays for us. Poised, he was under control. Nikola makes another improbable shot. He just adds to the legend of Nikola Jokic."

KEEP SHOOTING

With Saunders, Minnesota has placed an added emphasis on the 3 this year. The Wolves entered the game with the third-most attempts in the league at 40.5 per-game. But they were just 25th while hitting 31.8% of the shots.

Minnesota was 0 for 10 from beyond the arc in the third as Denver took control, and 2 for 22 in the second half and overtime.

The Wolves' previous worst 3-point shooting performance was Friday night against Golden State when it was 9 of 36. They are 15 of 81 from 3 in the two games. "There was a lot of good looks," said forward Robert Covington, who was 0 of 2 from 3. "Them shots are going to fall, it's just, got to believe in them, that's all."

MURRAY'S MIX

Coming off one of his best games of the season, Denver point guard Jamal Murray was clicking early, scoring 12 of the team's first 19 points while making all five of his shots. Murray left the game just 41 seconds into the second half with left foot soreness but later returned. He scored all 15 of his points in the first half and was 0-of-8 shooting in the second half. □

Heat suspend guard Dion Waiters for 10 games

By **TIM REYNOLDS**

AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Dion Waiters has been handed a 10-game suspension by the Miami Heat, with the team citing multiple examples of conduct detrimental to the team as the reason for his second banishment of the season.

The suspension was announced Sunday. It comes three days after Waiters, according to a person with direct knowledge of the matter, was treated for a medical emergency that started on the Heat charter flight Thursday night from Phoenix to Los Angeles.

Waiters, according to the person who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because

neither the team nor the player has confirmed details publicly, ingested at least one cannabis-infused edible and had a reaction serious enough that medical attention was required when the plane landed in Los Angeles.

"We are very disappointed in Dion's actions this season that include the very scary situation on Thursday night, and grateful that the outcome wasn't worse," the Heat said in a statement.

Waiters was also suspended for Miami's season opener after a series of incidents in the preseason and conflicts with coach Erik Spoelstra. His reaction on social media to the first suspension was also not well-received by Miami of-

ficials, and Waiters has not appeared in any of the nine Heat games so far this season.

The 10-game suspension, which will likely cost Waiters at least \$834,483 in salary, began with Miami's loss at the Lakers on Friday. The earliest he could return to Miami's lineup would be Dec. 1, when the Heat visit Brooklyn. But that would seem most unlikely, and Waiters' future with the franchise is in serious doubt. It's unclear what, if any, contact he will have with the team during the suspension.

Waiters is in his fourth Heat season, the on-court portion of that best remembered by his game-winning 3-pointer to beat Golden

State 105-102 on Jan. 23, 2017 — part of Miami's 30-11 finish that season after an 11-30 start.

He was rewarded that summer with a four-year contract worth \$47.3 million, plus about \$5 million more in possible incentives for playing a certain number of games. Waiters has yet to even get close to that bonus money, and he would have needed to play in 70 of Miami's 73 remaining games to claim the extra \$1.1 million at stake this season.

That is obviously not going to happen.

Waiters has never made more than 46 appearances in a year since coming to Miami. He's been in only 120 games with the Heat,

missing many because of ankle injuries and surgery on his ankle and foot.

Waiters is a career 13.2-point scorer and has averaged 14 points per game while with the Heat. Miami is off to a 6-3 start without Waiters this season, and play their next five games against teams with records currently below the .500 mark. "We are proud of how our players have started the season," the Heat said in Sunday's statement. "We expect all of our players, including Dion, to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards, and to show professionalism and respect for their teammates, the team, the fans and the NBA community." □



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Jannik Sinner of Italy holds the trophy after beating Australia's Alex De Minaur, during the ATP Next Gen tennis tournament final match, in Milan, Italy, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

Sinner beats De Minaur to scoop 1st ATP title

By DANIELLA MATAR
Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — Italian teenager Jannik Sinner beat top-seeded Alex de Minaur in straight sets at the Next Gen Finals on Saturday to claim his first ATP title — and a big payday.

Wild card Sinner triumphed 4-2, 4-1, 4-2 in the final, serving out to love and clinching victory when De Minaur hit a return into the net, much to the delight of a boisterous crowd in Milan. It was a second successive runner-up finish for De Minaur at the season-ending tournament for top under-21 players.

"He's an unbelievable player," Sinner said. "I just tried to play my game and not make any errors. I didn't make many so I'm very happy with my performance."

The title caps a fantastic season for the 18-year-old Sinner who opened the year at No. 551 but is now the youngest player inside the Top 300, having risen to

No. 95.

He only recorded his first ATP Tour main-draw win in April.

Sinner picked up \$372,000 from this week's tournament, surpassing his career total before arriving in Milan.

But he doesn't plan on splashing out to celebrate. "No," Sinner said with a smile when asked if he was going to buy himself something special. But he admitted even he didn't expect to do so well in Milan.

"I'm surprised because it's been an unbelievable week. All the players are unbelievable players. If not, they are not here."

"Sinner-Mania" is sure to grow. His run in Milan has stirred the crowds this week to near-hysteria and fans have packed the stands just to watch him practice.

De Minaur has only lost two of his 10 matches in two editions of the tournament in Milan, but unfortunately for the Australian they were both finals. □



Seattle Sounders celebrate Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, after the team beat the Toronto FC in the MLS Cup championship soccer match in Seattle. The Sounders won 3-1.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 18

Kelvin Leerdam settled the nerves of those home fans with his 57th minute goal off a deflection, Victor Rodríguez and Raul Ruidíaz added the cappers and the Sounders beat Toronto FC 3-1 on Sunday to claim the MLS Cup title.

Playing before the second-largest crowd for an MLS Cup final, the Sounders withstood a nervy first 45 minutes where Toronto was the better side, before capitalizing on their opportunities in the second half and setting off a wild celebration that lasted nearly an hour after the final whistle. CenturyLink Field shook when Rodríguez gave Seattle a 2-0 lead in the 76th minute and the stadium rattled again when Ruidíaz made it 3-0 in the 90th.

"I got a little teary-eyed, not so much for winning the trophy but winning it at home with our fans and having that positivity and joyous moments that you can share with everybody," Seattle goalkeeper Stefan Frei said.

Seattle had craved this moment since it joined the

league in 2009. The Sounders brought record crowds and record success — 11 straight playoff appearances — but its previous two appearances in the finals both required trips to Toronto. Seattle wanted to be on display, wanted to show how soccer-mad the area was, wanted the showcase of playing for a championship with a stadium crammed full of green. They got their wish. The 69,274 in attendance was a stadium record, the largest crowd to see a soccer match in Seattle, and the second-largest to witness an MLS Cup final behind last year in Atlanta. Seattle became the sixth franchise in league history with multiple titles. The Sounders joined Houston, Sporting Kansas City and San Jose with two titles. The LA Galaxy have five, and D.C. United four.

It was among the most anticipated finals in league history, and Seattle — eventually — delivered.

"If we played this game in Toronto, we would have lost," Seattle midfielder Cristian Roldan said. "But with

our fans, the ball bouncing our way at home, we won this game."

Those fans were forced to nervously sit on their hands for nearly an hour because Toronto was the better side. Toronto dominated possession and seemed the more likely side to find a goal. They controlled possession. They connected their passes more often. They seemed comfortable in the setting, while Seattle seemed uneasy.

It was one momentary breakdown by Toronto and a bit of luck that allowed Seattle to take the lead.

"Up until their first goal, I thought things were going our way. I thought we were playing well and had things under control," Toronto defender Justin Morrow said. "They come down and score, and it's tough after that." The second goal was the eventual game-winner for Seattle and the one which will be replayed for years. Rodríguez's goal started with Gustav Svensson's pass to Nicolas Lodeiro that left perfectly for Rodríguez near the top of the penalty area. □



In this March 25, 2019, file photo, Jennifer Bailey, vice president of Apple Pay, speaks about the Apple Card at the Steve Jobs Theater in Cupertino, Calif.

Associated Press

NY regulator vows to investigate Apple Card for sex bias

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York regulator is investigating Goldman Sachs for possible sex discrimination in the way it sets credit limits. The bank denies wrongdoing.

The investigation follows a series of viral tweets by entrepreneur and web developer David Heinemeier Hansson about algorithms used for the Apple Card, which Goldman Sachs manages in partnership with Apple.

Hansson said the card offered him a credit limit 20 times greater than it gave to his wife, even though she has a higher credit score. He called the algorithm a sexist program.

A spokeswoman for the New York Department of Financial Services confirmed Saturday that the agency will investigate.

The agency is "troubled to learn of potential discriminatory treatment in regards to credit limit decisions reportedly made by an algorithm of Apple Card, issued by Goldman Sachs," said spokeswoman Sophia Kim. She said the department "will be conducting an investigation to determine whether New York law was violated and ensure all consumers are treated equally regardless of sex."

"Our credit decisions are based on a customer's creditworthiness and not on factors like gender,

race, age, sexual orientation or any other basis prohibited by law," said Goldman Sachs spokesman Andrew Williams. He added that the bank could not comment on decisions about individual customers.

Apple did not immediately respond to a request for comment. In several tweets that were often liked thousands of times and frequently retweeted, Hansson didn't disclose his or his wife's income, but wrote that they have been married a long time, file joint tax returns and live in a community-property state. He tweeted that appeals when she got a far lower credit limit fell on deaf ears. When Apple Card finally raised her credit limit without addressing the scoring system, he tweeted, it was essentially trying to "bribe one loud mouth on Twitter, then we don't have to actually examine our faulty faith in THE ALGORITHM."

Apple introduced the Apple Card earlier this year in a partnership with Goldman Sachs. A press release announcing the card called Goldman Sachs "a newcomer to consumer financial services" that was "creating a different credit card experience." It pledged not to share or sell information to other parties for marketing and advertising. □



In this May 10, 2017, file photo, Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division nominee Makan Delrahim testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee's hearing on his nomination, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

Top antitrust enforcer warns Big Tech over data collection

By FRANK BAJAK
AP Technology Writer
CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (AP) — The Justice Department's top antitrust official warned Big Tech companies Friday that the government could pursue them for anticompetitive behavior related to their troves of user data, including for cutting off data access to competitors.

"Antitrust enforcers cannot turn a blind eye to the serious competition questions that digital markets have raised," Assistant Attorney General Makan Delrahim told an antitrust conference at Harvard Law School. Delrahim did not name any specific companies, but his office is investigating companies including Google while the Federal Trade Commission probes Facebook. The House Judiciary Committee is also conducting an inquiry looks at those two companies plus Amazon and Apple.

All but Apple are members of the Computer and Communications Industry Association, a tech lobbying group sponsoring Friday's conference. Delrahim said some of the most interesting and alarming legal issues raised by the rise of the digital economy are in the "collection,

aggregation and commercial use of consumer data," which he called "analogous to a new currency." He said his office is studying "the ways market power can manifest in industries where data plays a key role," particularly when large amounts of data are amassed that are "quite personal and unique in nature" and offers insight into "the most intimate aspects of human choice and behavior, including personal health, emotional well-being, civic engagement and financial fitness.

That, said Delrahim, can create "avenues for abuse." The acquisition of such data is especially valuable for companies in the business of selling predictions about human behavior, he said. That's how Google and Facebook — which dominate global search and social media — attract targeted advertising.

He cited Harvard Business School professor emerita Shoshana Zuboff's theory of "surveillance capitalism," which holds that the "behavioral data" those companies acquire through their nominally free services is a wholly new kind of product. Zuboff considers it massively invasive and exploitative. Delrahim said that "al-

though privacy fits primarily within the realm of consumer protection law, it would be a grave mistake to believe that privacy concerns can never play a role in antitrust analysis."

He cited several studies indicating people's willingness to "relinquish data for a fairly small incentive" including a study in which 1,500 students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology "were willing to share the contact information of their closest friends in exchange for only a pizza." Robust competition can spur companies to offer more and better privacy protections, Delrahim said. "Without competition, a dominant firm can more easily reduce quality - such as by decreasing privacy protections - without losing a significant number of users," he said.

That has been a major criticism of both Facebook and Google.

Delrahim also said his office is being "especially vigilant about the potential for anticompetitive effects when a company cuts off a profitable relationship supplying business partners with key data, code, or other technological inputs in ways that are contrary to the company's economic interests." □

Time your credit card application this bonus-friendly season

By **MELISSA LAMBARENA**

In late 2017, San Francisco couple Riley Adams and his wife stumbled upon the Halley's comet of airline credit card welcome offers. For a limited time, the card was advertising a companion pass on top of a large sign-up bonus.

"We knew we had a lot of spending in one specific area coming up, and we wanted to try to shop around to get the best value for those needs," says Adams, a certified public accountant and owner of the blog Young and the Invested. "If you plan for it, you can really offset those costs (with a sign-up bonus)."

If you're considering a new credit card, the bonus-friendly season from October through December is an ideal time. Your expenses on Black Friday, holiday travel and meals, end-of-the-year charitable donations and more may easily meet a large spending requirement for a juicy sign-up bonus.

Here's what to know about such offers.

TIMING A CREDIT CARD BONUS

A sign-up bonus is a one-time incentive offered by rewards credit cards on top of any ongoing cash back, points or miles on purchases. Snagging a bonus typically requires spending between \$500 and several thousand dollars within a certain time — often three months — after you're ap-



This Aug. 11, 2019, photo shows Visa credit cards and debit cards in New Orleans.

Associated Press

proved for the card.

That level of spending may not be difficult this time of year. During the 2019 holiday season, consumers plan to spend an average of nearly \$1,048 for items such as gifts, decorations, candy and more for themselves or family, according to the National Retail Federation's annual survey.

Even if your expenses aren't entirely holiday-related, a little planning can still help you reap a windfall that you can use the following holiday season.

The Adamses, for example, mapped their budget before applying for that airline card with the generous bonus. They met its spending requirement primarily

by paying for Riley's wife's work-related expenses in 2017; they then put what they earned toward holiday travel the next year.

"We used it all of 2018 to visit family for holidays — Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas — plus two domestic trips for (our) own purposes, and then flying to a major hub for an international flight on our one-year anniversary," Adams says.

HAVE THE MONEY ON HAND

It's not worth spending money you don't have just to chase a large bonus. If you can't pay your credit card bill in full each month, interest charges will eat away at any rewards you accrue. But if you've saved up a holiday fund, you can gift yourself a rich introduc-

tory credit card offer while you're at it.

Andy Hill, host of the podcast "Marriage, Kids and Money," plans to earn a sign-up bonus this holiday season with the savings he's earmarked for Christmas gifts.

"We save about \$1,200 for Christmas gift shopping," Hill says. "If we're going to spend that \$1,200, we might as well hit a bonus on a new credit card for us to get some cash back."

OTHER FACTORS TO KEEP IN MIND

As you size up a rewards credit card and its sign-up bonus, ask yourself these questions:

— Can you meet the card's credit requirements? You'll generally need good cred-

it (a FICO score of 690 or higher) to qualify for a rewards card with a big bonus.

— Are you willing to pay an annual fee? The top cards — those with the highest bonuses, richest rewards and best perks — charge one. If you don't think you'll earn enough in rewards and benefits to outweigh that fee, consider a no-annual-fee rewards card. Many of them also offer bonuses.

— Do the card's rewards categories match your expenses? A sign-up bonus can offer a chunk of upfront value, but the card won't be useful long term if its ongoing rewards and perks don't fit your habits.

— Are you eligible for the bonus? Check the card's terms. For example, you may not be able to earn a bonus if you've already received one from the same issuer recently.

— Can you meet the spending requirement for the bonus with your current budget? If you know you can't spend \$4,000 in three months without going into debt, look for a bonus with a lower spending threshold.

— Will you pay your bill in full every month to avoid interest? Rewards cards tend to have high ongoing APRs, meaning you don't want to carry a balance month to month. If you're already struggling with debt, a rewards credit card may not be ideal for you. □

WeWork to sell MeetUp, cut jobs in 90-day turnaround plan

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — WeWork says it will divest from several side business and job cuts across several units as part of a 90-day plan to turn around its businesses following its botched attempt to sell stock on Wall Street.

The office-sharing company revealed the plans Friday in a presentation that was first shared privately with investors in October. The businesses WeWork will

sell off include the online event organizer Meetup and its stake in the woman-focused co-working company The Wing.

The presentation showed that WeWork pressed on with its rapid expansion even as its initial public stock offering unraveled, a crisis that forced the ouster of its co-founder Adam Neumann. In the third quarter of 2019, WeWork added a record 108,000 desks in newly built office spaces. □

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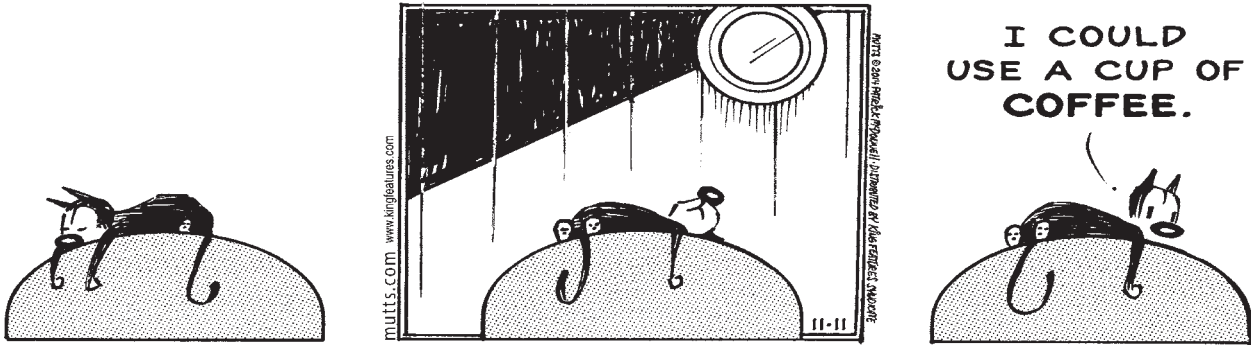
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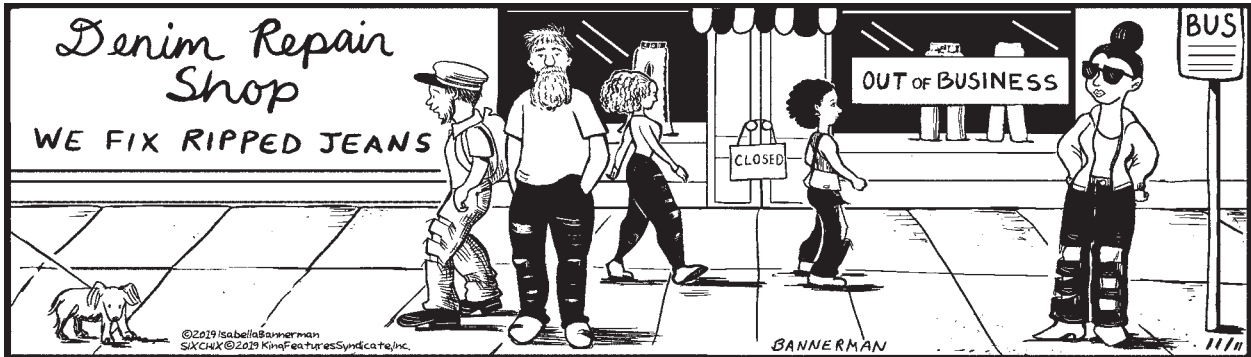
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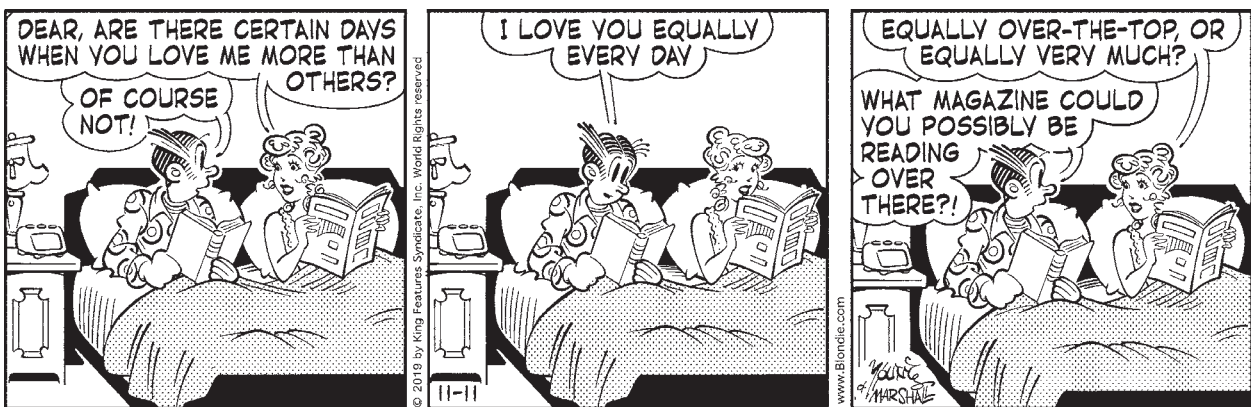
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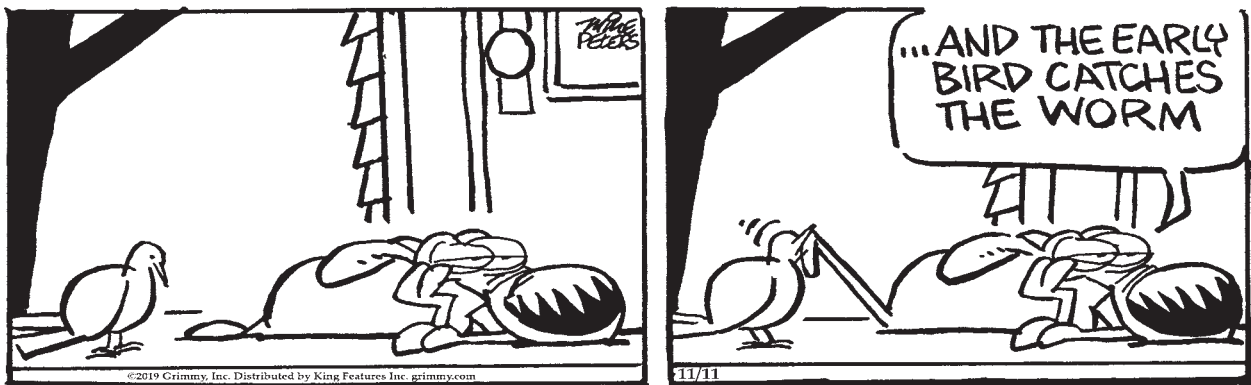
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		7		5			2	3
		9	6	3			8	7
8	6				4			
	1					9		
3	7			6			5	1
		2					7	
			5				4	8
6	3			8	2	5		
9	8			4		7		

Difficulty Level ★ 11/11

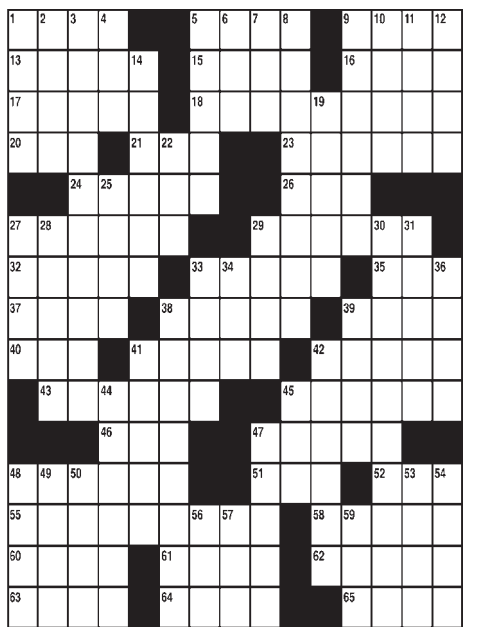
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

8	2	3	6	7	5	4	9	1
1	5	4	2	9	8	7	3	6
9	6	7	3	4	1	8	5	2
2	7	5	1	8	6	3	4	9
4	8	6	9	3	7	1	2	5
3	1	9	5	2	4	6	7	8
7	9	1	8	5	3	2	6	4
5	4	8	7	6	2	9	1	3
6	3	2	4	1	9	5	8	7

ACROSS

- 1 Lean-to
- 5 Chicago team
- 9 Noisy bird
- 13 Payments to Uncle Sam
- 15 "Step ___"; cry to a slowpoke
- 16 Bee colony
- 17 Remembered Texas mission
- 18 Made fun of
- 20 Panhandle
- 21 Short rest
- 23 Foyt & Unser
- 24 Homecoming attendees
- 26 JFK's Attorney General
- 27 Make
- 29 Company
- 32 Vital artery
- 33 Casino game
- 35 Actor Linden
- 37 "___ the night before Christmas..."
- 38 Mopes
- 39 Donut's center
- 40 All ___; prepared
- 41 Flat-bottomed boat
- 42 Purple shade
- 43 Leave a ship
- 45 Steep-walled canyons
- 46 As dumb ___ box of rocks
- 47 Bed on a train
- 48 Autographed
- 51 Permit
- 52 Deuce
- 55 Southern state
- 58 Attach
- 60 Possesses
- 61 Dour-faced
- 62 Stir up
- 63 Bathe
- 64 "Your guess is as good as ___"
- 65 Secluded valley



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/11/19

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

ARK	GHANA	SHIN
ROAM	ROBIN	CORE
MULE	ERECT	ANOX
TENNESSEE	RENT	
TAKE	LEE	
THROBS	PRODDING	
HAIRS	REAPS	GEE
AIDS	HASTE	GLEE
ILE	FONTS	CLODS
SERPENTS	CHOOSE	
ABE	LAIR	
CROC	STRIPPING	
LORE	TRIAL	FOES
UBER	LUCRE	YANK
BESS	YEAST	HEY

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DOWN

- 1 Take a ___ at; attempt
- 2 Robust
- 3 Blow out of proportion
- 4 Carter or Clinton: abbr.
- 5 Part of USMC
- 6 Prefix for cycle or form
- 7 eBay offer
- 8 Equestrian's footrests
- 9 Connors & Norris
- 10 Irritate
- 11 "It ain't ___ till the fat lady sings"
- 12 Unites
- 14 Popular Hyundai model
- 19 Lunch spots
- 22 Ending for lemon or lime
- 25 Long-tailed rodents
- 27 Long-running Broadway play
- 28 Oared
- 29 Fence door
- 30 Considerate
- 31 Ointment
- 33 Bottle stopper
- 34 Carpet
- 36 Majors & others
- 38 Perfect example
- 39 Playwright Moss

- 41 Military installations
- 42 Bricklayer's plaster
- 44 Exile
- 45 "Wow!"
- 47 Accuse
- 48 As ___ as molasses
- 49 Midwest state
- 50 Weapons
- 53 Shrewd
- 54 Plow pullers
- 56 Muhammad ___
- 57 Woman with a habit
- 59 Driver's nightmare

Malawi fights tsetse flies, disease after wildlife relocated

NKHOTAKOTA, Malawi (AP)

— The relocation of hundreds of elephants to Malawi's largest wildlife reserve was meant to be a sign of hope and renewal in this southern African nation. Then nearby residents began falling ill.

The cause of the headaches, weakness and pain were trypanosomes, tiny parasites spread by the bite of the tsetse fly — a companion of the elephants. Trypanosomiasis, or sleeping sickness, is the result.

Local families described the toll the disease can take.

"I feel too weak," said Chimba Njati, who was still recovering after a week in the hospital. He said he was bitten while farming near the wildlife reserve. "I cannot even carry a hoe and farm. The home is lacking food and other important things because it is my wife doing everything on her own. This is so worrying." Authorities said the Nkhokotakota wildlife reserve has seen a surge in tsetse fly numbers since around 2015 when the elephants and other game animals were reintroduced.

The local hospital said it did not have a number of sleeping sickness cases. One community resident, Group Village Ngondo, recalled at least five deaths from the disease.

The World Health Organization says sleeping sickness is endemic in 36 countries in sub-Saharan Africa but cases have been dropping. Last year just under 1,000 cases were recorded, a new low. The majority of cases are reported in Congo.

The disease is "notoriously difficult to treat" with drugs and easier to treat when caught early, WHO says. The health agency says it is usually fatal when untreated as the parasite moves into the central nervous system and eventually can cause seizures and coma.

Dr. Janelisa Misaya, a Malawi College of Medicine principal investigator, underscored the need to



In this Tuesday July 12, 2016 file photo, an elephant is lifted by a crane in an upside down position in Lilongwe, Malawi, in the first step of an assisted migration of 500 of the animals.

Associated Press

control the tsetse fly population.

"One tsetse can actually infect a lot of people at once," she said. "So we don't want to take chances."

Some villagers expressed concern about the reintroduction of wildlife and the enlargement of the nearby reserve.

The African Parks field operations manager for the reserve, David Robertson, acknowledged that the reintroduction of animals in 2015 led to an increase in tsetse flies.

"It is a bit ironic because it is a negative symptom of the success we are having," he said. "By increasing animal numbers, one of the unfortunate consequences could be an increase in tsetse fly numbers. Even though they are a natural part of the system, they

contribute to biodiversity."

The tsetse flies are something the parks workers need to manage differently, Robertson said. "We don't want to have neighboring communities or tourists to the park having an unpleasant experience or dangerous experience though contact with tsetse flies so we will do our best to manage that in the future."

To address the problem, African Parks in collaboration with Malawi's government has introduced pesticide-impregnated targets and traps that attract the flies. So far 600 have been placed in the wildlife reserve. They are placed near the edge of thickets in areas that will receive morning and evening light but are shaded from the most intense sunlight during midday hours. □



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Pacific bird refuge struggles as ocean garbage patch grows

By **CALEB JONES**

MIDWAY ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (AP)

— Flying into the uninhabited Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Midway Atoll appears out of the vast blue Pacific as a tiny oasis of coral-fringed land with pristine white sand beaches that are teeming with life. But on the ground, there's a different scene: plastic, pollution and death.

With virtually no predators, Midway is a haven for many species of seabirds and is home to the largest colony of albatross in the world.

But Midway is also at the center of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a vast area of floating plastic collected by circulating oceanic currents. The Hawaiian Islands act like a comb that gathers debris as it floats across the Pacific. A recent analysis found that the patch is accumulating debris at a faster rate than scientists previously thought. Midway is littered with bird skeletons that have brightly colored plastic protruding from their decomposing bellies. Bottle caps, toothbrushes and cigarette lighters sit in the centers of their feathery carcasses.

"There isn't a bird that doesn't have some (plastic)," said Athline Clark, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's



In this Oct. 22, 2019, photo, plastic sits in the decomposed carcass of a seabird on Midway Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

superintendent for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, which Midway is part of. They "fill their bellies up with plastics instead of food and eventually either choke or just don't have enough room for actual nourishment and perish."

Sharp plastic pieces can also perforate their intestines and esophagus.

Papahānaumokuākea, which quadrupled in size under President Barack Obama in 2016, is the world's largest marine con-

servation area and was inscribed in 2010 as a UNESCO mixed World Heritage site.

"Papahānaumokuākea is both a biologically rich and culturally sacred place," Clark said. "The Hawaiians call it a place of abundance, or *aina momona*." But circulating currents now bring an abundance of plastic and other trash from all around the Pacific Rim to Hawaii's beaches. The debris ranges from tiny microplastics that nearly every animal in this marine

ecosystem ingests to huge fishing nets that gather plants, animals and other debris while bulldozing across fragile coral reefs.

"The estimates are that there's about 57,000 pounds of marine debris that washes ashore within this part of the archipelago annually," Clark said.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Kelly Goodale lives and works on Midway, the site of a decisive World War II battle, and said the plastic that washes ashore there each year is just part

of the problem.

"Not only are our beaches getting it, but also our albatross will bring it and feed it to their chicks," Goodale said.

Albatross spend much of their lives at sea feeding and flying thousands of miles across the oceans before returning to Midway each year to lay eggs and raise their young.

"So we estimate about 5 tons (4.5 metric tons) of plastic being brought to Midway every year just by adult albatross feeding it to their chicks," Goodale said.

The albatross tend to seek out squid eggs that attach themselves to floating pieces of plastic, which is why so many birds are eating the material, Clark said.

And it's not just the seabirds that are harmed by ocean plastic. Endangered Hawaiian monk seals and green sea turtles can die while entangled in plastic nets. Sharks and other apex predators eat smaller fish that feed on microplastic. Whales drag fishing line and buoys behind them during their long migrations across the world's oceans. It's important to understand the relationship between the oceans, marine life and humans, Clark said.

She shared a Native Hawaiian proverb: "*Ma o ke kai pili ai kakou*." It means, "The ocean connects us all." □

Associated Press



This June 1, 2019 photo shows the rare desert wildflower Tiehm's buckwheat in the Silver Peak Range about 120 miles southeast of Reno, Nev., the only place it is known to exist in the world.

Associated Press

Nevada reviews possible mining threat to unique wildflower

By **SCOTT SONNER**

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Nevada is launching a comprehensive review of the status of a desert wildflower that isn't known to exist anywhere else in the world because of concerns about potential effects from new mining exploration.

The move comes after the Center for Biological Diversity sued the Trump administration last month to try to block mining operations they say would wipe out the Tiehm's buckwheat. The conservationists also have filed an emergency petition with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the

flower as an endangered species.

The state Division of Natural Heritage has been monitoring the status of the plant since it was discovered in 1985 in the Silver Peak Range, about 120 miles (193 kilometers) southeast of Reno, said Bradley Crowell, director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The delicate wildflower typically grows about 2 feet (half a meter) tall with white, cream or yellow blooms.

It hadn't faced significant threats in the past due to its remote location, but that's

changed with new interest in mining exploration for lithium deposits in the area, Crowell said. Lithium is a key component in the manufacturing of batteries for electric cars such as the ones made at Tesla's battery factory east of Reno.

"Nevada is home to more than 150 plant species that live exclusively in our state, including the one-of-a-kind Tiehm buckwheat," Crowell said Thursday in announcing the new status review that will begin this month.

"Input from the public and the use of the best available science is critical to this process," he said. □

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Ginsburg, in book, questions confidential #MeToo agreements

By MARYCLAIRE DALE

PHILADELPHIA (AP) —

A new book on Ruth Bader Ginsburg explores the Supreme Court justice's thoughts on the #MeToo movement and her hope that non-disclosure agreements, which have come under fire in sexual misconduct cases, "will not be enforced by the courts."

Several women have spoken out about their encounters with disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein and other high-profile men despite the financial and legal risk of violating the agreements. Others, including former Fox news anchor Gretchen Carlson, want to be released from the confidentiality clauses, concluding they only serve to cover up abuse and keep victims silent.

In "Conversations with RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty, and Law," the 86-year-old feminist icon questions whether the #MeToo movement will render the secrecy clause obsolete in such cases.

"One interesting thing is whether it will be an end to the confidentiality pledge. Women who complained and brought suit were offered settlements in which they would agree that they



In this Monday, Oct. 21, 2019, file photo, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg speaks during the inaugural Herma Hill Kay Memorial Lecture at the University of California at Berkeley, in Berkeley, Calif.

Associated Press

would never disclose what they had complained about," Ginsburg said at a February 2018 event at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia that's included in the book.

"I suspect we will not see those agreements anymore," she said at the time. Ginsburg revised her thoughts in edits made this year, according to the book, which was written by National Constitution Cen-

ter President Jeffrey Rosen and released Tuesday.

"I hope those agreements will not be enforced by courts," Ginsburg added.

Ginsburg had championed equal protection for women in the 1970s as co-founder of the Women's Rights Projects at the American Civil Liberties Union.

Some lawyers who represent women today in sexual misconduct cases, including Debra Katz and

Gloria Allred, pushed back on Ginsburg's view of the non-disclosure agreements, known as "NDAs." They called them essential to securing settlements and protecting their clients' privacy.

"Employers would not be willing to pay the kind of settlement that they pay now if they believe that all other employees would know about (it)," said Katz, who represented Christine

Blasey Ford in her Senate testimony against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

Katz also fears the disclosures would make it hard for her clients to find work again.

For Carlson, the secrecy has left her unable to take part in media coverage of her lawsuit against Fox News. She received a reported \$20 million settlement in 2016 after claiming late Fox News chief Roger Ailes fired her after she rejected his sexual advances.

"It's really through NDAs (non-disclosure agreements) and through other means of settling these kinds of cases of sexual harassment that we keep women silent," Carlson told The Associated Press on Saturday.

Until that changes, she said, "we're not going to eradicate this problem."

Katz, though, insists it's not up to victims to change the culture. "The onus should be not on the person who's brought a claim to . protect women in the future from sexual harassment. That's the job of the employer," Katz said. Fox did not respond to requests for comment on the issue this week. □

Jeff Lynne does it nearly all himself on new album

By PABLO GORONDI

Jeff Lynne's ELO, "From Out of Nowhere" (Columbia Records)

Jeff Lynne's ELO is an elastic band that alternates between being a one-man studio outfit and, nowadays, a 13-member touring ensemble with several guitarists, keyboard players, three string players and others. "Time of Our Life," from the band's new album, symbolically brings the two versions together. Lynne plays practically everything on the track (there may be some percussion from album engineer Steve Jay) while paying tribute to the full lineup's June 2017 show at Wembley Stadium — "60,000 mobile phones/ Were shining in the dark

of night." The song briefly quotes ELO classic "Telephone Line" and there's even a snippet of the crowd's cheers, but don't count on performing royalties even if you think you hear your voice.

"From Out of Nowhere," both the album and its eponymous opening track, contain Lynne's trademarks — the layered voices, the high-pitched harmonies, sheets of keyboards and guitars and Beatles-esque melodies. It's all expertly played, as usual, though the drums often sound rather mechanical. With ELO stalwart Richard Tandy playing a piano solo on the rocking "One More Time," a reunion with ELO original drummer Bev Bevan would

have been welcome.

Keeping with Lynne's usual melancholy, the lovely second track "Help Yourself," launches a four-tune section, also including rhythmically free-spirited "All My Love," jingle-jangly "Down Came the Rain" and weepy ballad "Losing You," where any optimism comes right after the rose-tinted glasses have been crushed — "I still remember how you smiled and waved your last goodbye/But somehow you will always live with me."

Among the rest of the tracks, "Goin' Out on Me" evokes Little Anthony and the Imperials' "Tears on My Pillow" and closer "Songbird" includes the record's most uplifting lyrics over its slowest beat. □



This cover image released by Columbia Records shows "From Out Of Nowhere" by Jeff Lynne.

Associated Press



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Emilia Clarke in a scene from "Last Christmas."

Associated Press

'Last Christmas' isn't the rom-com cliché it appears

By **JAKE COYLE**
Associated Press

Paul Feig's "Last Christmas" looks every bit like your standard holiday romantic-comedy, but it has some surprises under its gauzy wrapping.

Kate (Emilia Clarke) works in a year-round Christmas ornament shop in London where she must dress daily in a green elf costume. A repeatedly self-described mess living couch to couch, Kate's life begins to change after she meets a mysterious stranger (Henry Golding) whose life advice — "Just look up" — would be too hokey for anything but aspiring meteorologists. So far, this might sound like a reworking of Ernst Lubitsch's "The Shop Around the Corner" (still the greatest X-mas rom-com). And yet "Last Christmas" turns out to be something less familiar. It's the first — and likely the last — Brexit Christmas movie.

That's not exactly the stuff of movie posters. Those drawn to "Last Christmas" by the infectious lilt of the Wham! classic and the appeal of seeing Clarke newly freed from "Game of Thrones" will encounter a holiday fable that slyly inverts many of the usual trappings of the romantic comedy — so much so that's it's neither particularly funny nor especially romantic.

"Last Christmas" was written by Emma Thompson (who also plays Kate's heavily accented mother — their

family are longtime Londoners who emigrated from war-torn Yugoslavia) and Bryony Kimmings. Thompson, of course, is already an integral part of one Yuletide perennial, "Love Actually," so it's natural to come to "Last Christmas" seeking some of the same spirit.

It's not to be found. "Last Christmas" is about as buoyant as leftover eggnog. Clarke's natural charm comes through — she looks ecstatic to be out of Westeros and playing a less upright character — but such a fleabag-screwup role feels better suited to a more comedic performer. Yet it's often entertaining the way Thompson and Feig take a rom-com set-up and steadily pull it apart, even as they add in the requisite gobs of syrupy sentiment. These movies can be rosy portraits of their cities and their wealthier, white residents. But "Last Christmas" captures a diverse London of immigrants and outsiders, and gravitates not toward its tourist landmarks but its street dwellers. This is set amid the harsh context of Brexit, with background TVs showing the U.K. debates and one "go back to where you came from" encounter on a city bus.

Kate is going from one one-night stand to another, steadfastly refusing to retreat home to her overbearing family in the suburbs. When not working at

the store, she makes half-hearted auditions, trying to break through as a musical performer. Her boss at the boutique shop goes by the name Santa (Michelle Yeoh) and delights in sarcastic quips aimed at her lone elf.

Kate is also recovering from a health issue referenced only vaguely at first. And when she meets Tom (Golding), Kate is reluctantly inspired to begin putting her life together — even though Tom is always disappearing, only popping up randomly.

There are good intentions all around but hardly any jokes, which makes the movie's treacherous third-act reveal of Tom's identity still harder to swallow. Movies like "Bridesmaids" and "The Heat" made Feig one of Hollywood's top comedy directors, but since his "Ghostbusters" reboot, Feig has turned more toward other genres, relying on narrative twists that he can't always pull off. His last film, the 2018 suburban noir "A Simple Favor," was derailed by wild, "Gone Girl"-inspired plot developments.

George Michael's "Last Christmas" was always more of heartbreak song than a holiday anthem. Feig's movie, too, diverts from standard rom-com beats for something more about rehabilitation, charity and diversity. Its heart might be in the right place, even if its storyline isn't. □

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PBP **VIP** MON-FRI 5:50 | 9:00
SAT-SUN 2:40 | 5:50 | 9:00

PBP **CXC**
MON-FRI 4:30 | 7:20
SAT-SUN 1:20 | 4:30 | 7:20

MIDWAY
WITH DUTCH SUBTITLES

PH **VIP** MON-FRI 8:00
SAT-SUN 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:00

PBP MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:15 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:10

PLAYING WITH FIRE

PH MON-FRI 6:10 | 8:30
SAT-SUN 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30

PBP MON-FRI 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15
SAT-SUN 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15

TERMINATOR DARK FATE
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-FRI 5:50 | 8:40
SAT-SUN 3:00 | 5:50 | 8:40

PBP MON-THU 5:05 | 7:50
FRI 5:05 | 7:50 | 10:35
SAT 2:20 | 5:05 | 7:50 | 10:35
SUN 2:20 | 5:05 | 7:50

PBP **VIP** MON-SUN 9:20

MALEFICENT MISTRESS OF EVIL
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-FRI 6:00 | 8:45
SAT-SUN 3:20 | 6:00 | 8:45

PBP **VIP** MON-FRI 4:00 | 6:40
SAT-SUN 1:20 | 4:00 | 6:40

PBP MON-THU 5:15 | 7:50
FRI 5:15 | 7:50 | 10:25
SAT 2:40 | 5:15 | 7:50 | 10:25
SUN 2:40 | 5:15 | 7:50

ADDAMS FAMILY
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PBP MON-FRI 5:00 | 7:10
SAT-SUN 2:50 | 5:00 | 7:10

COUNTDOWN
PG-13

PH MON-FRI 7:05 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 2:55 | 5:00 | 7:05 | 9:10

JOKER
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PBP MON-SUN 9:25

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Chrissy Teigen honored at Baby2Baby gala

By **JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.**
CULVER CITY, Calif. (AP)

— Chrissy Teigen said she felt honored to receive an award at the Baby2Baby Gala, but her acceptance speech wasn't all about her achievement: "No kid should go hungry. No kid should not go without the basics in their home."

Teigen — a model, television host and cookbook author — accepted the Giving Tree Award on Sat-

urday night in Culver City, California. Her husband, singer John Legend, presented her with the award symbolizing her commitment to children in need.

"I feel honored to be honored," Teigen said. Legend praised Teigen for being an advocate for children through Baby2Baby. The nonprofit organization looks for high-profile celebs to highlight their mission of helping provide basic ne-

cessities to children living in poverty.

Ellen DeGeneres, Kenan Thompson and Andy Cohen congratulated Teigen in a video message.

Teigen said she and Legend have tried to instill the importance of giving to the less fortunate in their young children, Luna and Miles. Saturday's event celebrated the organization and raised funds for children living in poverty. □

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A CGI James Dean is cast in new film, sparking an outcry

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — James Dean hasn't been alive in 64 years, but the "Rebel Without a Cause" actor has been cast in a new film about the Vietnam War. The filmmakers behind the independent film "Finding Jack" said Wednesday that a computer-generated Dean will play a co-starring role in the upcoming production. The digital Dean is to be assembled through old footage and photos and voiced by another actor. Digitally manipulated posthumous performances have made some inroads into films. But those have been largely roles the actors already played, including Carrie Fisher and Peter Cushing, who first appeared together in "Star Wars" and were prominently featured in the 2016 spinoff "Rogue One." But the prospect of one of

the movies' most beloved former stars being digitally resurrected was met with widespread criticism after the news was first reported by The Hollywood Reporter. Chris Evans, the "Captain America" actor, was among those who called the plans disrespectful and wrongheaded. "Maybe we can get a computer to paint us a new Picasso. Or write a couple new John Lennon tunes," said Evans on Twitter. "The complete lack of understanding here is shameful." Rights to Dean's likeness were acquired by the filmmakers and the production company Magic City Films through CMG Worldwide. The company represents Dean's family along with the intellectual property rights associated with many other deceased personalities including Neil Armstrong, Bette Davis and Burt Reynolds. Mark Roesler, chairman



This May 27, 2005 file photo shows plants and flowers at the grave of actor James Dean in Fairmount, Ind.

Associated Press

and chief executive of CMG, defended the usage of Dean and said the company has represented his family for decades. Noting that Dean has more than 183,000 followers on Instagram, Roesler said he still resonates today. "James Dean was known as Hollywood's 'rebel' and he famously said 'if a man can

bridge the gap between life and death, if he can live after he's died, then maybe he was a great man. Immortality is the only true success,'" said Roesler. "What was considered rebellious in the '50s is very different than what is rebellious today, and we feel confident that he would support this modern day

act of rebellion." Adapted from Gareth Crocker's novel, "Finding Jack" is a live-action movie about the U.S. military's abandonment of canine units following the Vietnam War. Directors Anton Ernst and Tati Golykh are to begin shooting Nov. 17. In an email, Ernst said they "tremendously" respect Dean's legacy. "The movie subject matter is one of hope and love, and he is still relevant like the theme of the film we are portraying," said Ernst. "There is still a lot of James Dean fans worldwide who would love to see their favorite icon back on screen. There would always be critics, and all we can do is tell a great story with humanity and grace." Dean had just three leading roles before he died in a car crash in 1955 at the age of 24: "Rebel Without a Cause," "East of Eden" and "Giant." □

Despite fires, California wine is doing just fine - for now

By **RACHEL LERMAN**

HEALDSBURG, Calif. (AP)

— If you're worried that wildfires might have created shortages of Northern California's 2019 cabernet sauvignon, or even just imparted it with an undesirable smoky flavor, you can relax. The wine is just fine. For now.

Despite a late October blaze that raged through one of the world's best-known wine-growing regions, forcing evacuations in two mid-sized towns, wine production in Sonoma County escaped largely unscathed.

Limerick Lane Wines, for instance, avoided serious damage despite flames that licked at two sides of its property in the Russian River Valley just south of Healdsburg. Limerick's grapes were already harvested, crushed and stored in tanks and barrels. The winery's sealed cellar prevented smoke damage to its inventory, said owner Jake Bilbro, although its tasting room now has an acrid smell.

"I have to thank the people who planted our vineyards and built our house 100 years ago," Bilbro said. "Our buildings are all surrounded by vineyards, and vineyards are excellent fire breaks."

Overall, vintners estimate that the region lost only about five percent of its harvest to fire and smoke — not a perfect outcome, but better than in 2017, when wildfire struck with only about 90% of the



In this Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019 photo, Cabernet Sauvignon grapes left unpicked hang in a vineyard along Highway 128 in Geyserville, Calif.

Associated Press

harvest in. The remaining grapes weren't all lost, but that year's vintages were rumored to have a "smoky" taste, and winemakers were taking no chances this year.

Many in Sonoma, a sprawling county larger than Rhode Island located about an hour north of San Francisco, say they're hoping that fires don't become the new normal. But with the smell of smoke lingers in the air and the charred hills serving as a reminder, they're also making plans in case they do.

Fire season isn't over yet, of course, and the now largely contained Kincadee fire did incinerate the historic Soda Rock Winery, although most vineyards sustained no damage and

lost no production. But the region has suffered a precipitous drop in fall tourism, which could undermine the economic health of its wineries and hospitality industry alike.

Bret Munselle lost about half of the young vines he had planted just two months before when a fire raged through the upper part of his ranch at Munselle Vineyards in Alexander Valley, between Healdsburg and Geyserville. The drainage below the plants was also damaged, and will probably cost \$150,000 to repair, he said.

It could have been much worse if mature vineyards were more appealing to fire. Water-rich vines and grapes planted in plowed rows don't offer them much fuel, he said.

"My family has lived on this property for 130 years," Munselle said. "We've never seen it burn from the tops of mountains to the valley floor."

Climate change is making summers warmer and drying out more forest brush, creating greater fuel reservoirs for wildfire, said Noah Diffenbaugh, a professor of earth system science at Stanford. The late-autumn rains that typically end fire season have started later in recent years, he said, although it's not yet clear whether that's also climate-

related.

Oddly enough, those same effects can help protect the grape crop by accelerating ripening of the fruit and reducing the chance that unexpectedly early rains might damage it.

Wine researchers have suggested vineyards might need to adjust harvest times, evaluate what they plant, even possibly move to cooler areas over time. Few grape growers are dramatically changing their practices yet. No one is talking about closing up shop or moving elsewhere. But winemakers are tinkering anyway — and everyone is buying backup generators.

Clay Mauritson of Mauritson Wines said he and his family are experimenting with

different pruning methods to increase shade on the plants, although they don't see any need to shift to new growing areas.

"We don't want to be too dramatic or reactionary," he said. "We are going to take baby steps to make sure we're prepared for what comes down."

Tourism, which is usually booming amid the fall colors and mild temperatures, has taken a serious blow. Evacuations of nearby Healdsburg and Windsor, along with planned blackouts by the region's utility, PG&E — plus, the widespread misperception that the vineyards themselves burned — led to a rash of cancellations for hotel, restaurant and tasting-room reservations.

Joe Bartolomei, owner of the upscale boutique hotel Farmhouse Inn in Forestville, said he would normally be sold out this time of year. But on Nov. 1, his inn had only two of 25 rooms filled. He's trying to get the message out that the county businesses are intact and open for visitors.

But, he said, "it's going to be a slow, gradual education." Visitor numbers had just started recovering from a similar drop-off following the 2017 fires, said Sonoma County Tourism president Claudia Vecchio.

So the tourism bureau now plans to promote wine country as a spring destination rather than fall, and is devoting the bulk of its \$750,000 advertising budget to that end. □



In this Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019 photo, partner Bret Munselle of Munselle Vineyards walks down the hillside where he lost about half of the young vines he had planted before a fire raged through the upper part of his ranch in Geyserville, Calif.

Associated Press



In this Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019 photo, Mark Dankowski, right, leads a tasting for a group of people visiting the Soda Rock Winery in Healdsburg, Calif.

Associated Press